



ARAB TIMES



MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1989 / MOHARRAM 27, 1410 AH

NO. 7647

20 PAGES 150 FILS

Amir visiting Egypt for important regional talks

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (Agencies): HH the Amir of Kuwait flies to Cairo tomorrow for the first visit by a Kuwaiti head of state in more than 15 years following Egypt's return to the Arab fold.

He will hold talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that both countries describe as "highly important".

Kuwait's Defense Minister Sheikh Nawaaf Al

Ahmed, said in a statement broadcast by the

Kuwait Radio that this would be borne out by the expected result of the visit. He did not elaborate.

Kuwait and Egypt represent more than 90 Islamic and African countries, with the Amir as current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and Mubarak chairman of the Organisation of African Unity.

The Amir and Mubarak have been prominent

campaigners for international aid to help the Third World alleviate crippling foreign debts. The two leaders are also active in trying to solve Arab, African and Islamic conflicts and to strengthen Arab solidarity, Sheikh Nawaaf said.

Kuwait's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saoud Al Osaimi, said Amir's visit came "while the Arab world is passing through critical political circumstances."

The two leaders will discuss hot political and

economic issues on the Arab and international arenas, especially those of concern to the Third World," particularly the Middle East peace process and the Lebanese crisis, he said.

Egypt played a prominent regional role even after most Arab states cut off relations with Cairo after the President Anwar Sadat signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

One of the main regional issues at present is the

fighting between Syrian and Christian forces in Lebanon, where Arab League efforts to mediate an end to a 14-year-old civil war have founded.

The Amir and Mubarak are also expected to review the Palestinian situation and developments in the Gulf a year after a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire halted the eight-year war between Iraq and Iran. Peace talks have

stalemated.

Other leaders of the oil-rich Gulf Arab states, which provide financial aid to Egypt and the poorer members of the 22-country Arab League, have visited Cairo since Egypt was reinstated in the Arab League earlier this year.

Kuwait re-established diplomatic ties with Egypt on Nov 17, 1987, and Mubarak has since visited Kuwait twice.

(See Page 5)

Israeli jets hit Hezbollah base

Fadlallah invites Pope; Don't go—Iran

French fleet pulls back off Lebanon

SIDON, Lebanon, Aug 27. (Agencies): Israeli warplanes pounded a base of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah group in South Lebanon today, killing and wounding five commandos, security sources in the southern port of Sidon said.

It was the first Israeli air raid on Lebanon since Israeli commandos seized Hezbollah cleric Sheikh Abdu Karim Obeid from his home in South Lebanon on July 28.

The sources said two planes, which were shielded by two others, flattened a military operations room in the village of Ain Abou Swar, a

Hezbollah stronghold 20 km (12 miles) southeast of Sidon.

Three commandos were seriously wounded and rushed to hospital in Beirut, the sources said, while two others were being treated in the region.

Two Israeli planes also flew over Sidon, a major base for Palestinian commandos, during the 10-minute raid at 7 pm (1600 GMT), the sources said.

France today proposed a three-step peace plan for Lebanon after further reducing its controversial naval presence in the area.

In Jerusalem, a military spokesman declined to say whether the air raid was in retaliation for an August 9 suicide car bomb attack which wounded five Israeli soldiers in Israel's South Lebanon security zone.

The attack was carried out by a member of the Islamic Resistance, a coalition of pro-Iranian groups which includes Hezbollah, in reprisal for Israel's seizure of Obeid.

One of Lebanon's leading pro-Iranian clerics, in an interview published today, invited Pope John Paul to visit Beirut and guaranteed his security in the city's Muslim western sector.

A radical Iranian newspaper today warned Pope not to visit Lebanon, saying that would be "repulsive to Muslims."

The interview was published amid growing speculation in Italy that the Pope could make the visit next month.

Sheikh Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual mentor of the Hezbollah who is widely respected among Lebanon's militant Shiites, told the Rome daily La Repubblica:

"We... invite the Pope to West Beirut. Furthermore, we are ready to give him full security guarantees."

In Beirut, a Hezbollah spokesman reached by telephone said Israeli warplanes attacked positions of the Islamic resistance southeast of Sidon and wounded several commandos and civilian. The group's radio station, the Voice of Light, said many civilians were rushed to hospital in Beirut and its Shiite southern suburbs. The station appealed for blood donations to treat them.

French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said a settlement was possible if the warring parties accepted a ceasefire and arms embargo followed by political reforms and ultimately the withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli forces.

The formula was outlined in the most detailed statement on French policy since President Mitterrand launched a series of "save Lebanon" initiatives on August 12.

Dumas said he was sending a high-ranking official to five Arab capitals to present the plan. Francois Scherh, secretary-general at the Foreign Ministry, left today for Damascus.

He will go to Beirut and then Saudi Arabia, Morocco and (Continued on Page 7)



An Amal militiaman fires from his automatic rifle on the Green Line. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sheep disease-free

Australian livestock cleared

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): The Public Authority for Agriculture and Fish Resources announced today evening that competent veterinary authorities have examined all Kuwait-imported Australian sheep and found no symptoms of any disease.

Australian health department director Dr Sultan Ahmad Al Sultan said: "The authority would like to reassure the citizens that it had examined the sheep and had applied all measures upon arrival of livestock to Kuwait."

He reiterated that the Australian sheep were "free from any disease symptoms... and what had been alleged concerning this consignment was completely untrue."

Dr Sultan emphasised that any sheep imported by Kuwait "is always subject to thorough examination, and it is impossible under any circumstances to bring any sheep or any other livestock to Kuwait for breeding or slaughtering purposes unless it was free from any disease."

Lima Al Khalafawi and Ali Al

Masned said: As many as 60,000 Australian sheep, rejected by Saudi Arabia, on the grounds that they had blue tongue and sheep pox, had arrived in Kuwait and have been quarantined for further tests.

"We are happy that Kuwait

accepted the sheep and are also conducting tests to verify whether they are diseased or not," he added.

Qatar yesterday gave a clean bill of health to 35,000 sheep that it had earlier said were found to be carrying Maltese fever, another malady the Australians say does not exist in their sheep raising industry.

Oman also stiffened sheep tests on a consignment of 7,000 live Australian sheep which arrived yesterday.

A veterinarian told the Arab Times that a person consuming meat infected with sheep pox and blue tongue will have fever which may also result in vomiting.

Brucellosis also commonly known as Maltese fever when transmitted to humans can prove fatal in some cases, he added.

Although it is the end of the month, when the government employees receive their monthly salaries and begin purchasing their essential commodities, including meat, the activity at the retail and wholesale market, both located in Shuaibah were very quiet.

Prices of Australian meat ranged between 600-700 fils a kilo at the retail market. Wholesale company that bought the controversial Australian sheep, have (Continued on Page 9)

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INTERNATIONAL

Ruins of Al plane found

COURMAYEUR, Italy, Aug 27, (AP): Wreckage from an Air India crash 23 years ago has emerged from the ice on the slopes of the Italian side of Europe's second highest mountain, Italian newspapers said today.

The Air India Boeing 707 slammed into the sides of Mount Blanc, which straddles the French-Italian border, on the morning of Jan 24, 1966. The crash killed all 117 aboard, including noted nuclear physicist Homi Jehangir Bhabha, head of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission.

Italian newspapers said today that mountain guide Renzino Cossen on Friday found parts of the fuselage and interior of the plane, clothes, shoes and a bag inscribed with the words "Fly India" on the edge of the mountain's Miage glacier.

Police said they would climb to the site today to examine pieces of the wreckage and determine if some of the remains can be recovered.

The cause of the crash remains a mystery. The aircraft's black box was never found and may still remain buried in the ice. The Alpine winter delayed a search on the mountain until the beginning of the next summer. By then, workers could find only a part of one wing and a piece of the fuselage.

"It would be useless to search now. It is necessary to wait until the black box, if it still exists, emerges from the ice," said Cossen.

The flight to New York originated in Bombay and included stops in New Delhi, Beirut, Geneva and London. It crashed into the French side of the mountain at the 4,677-metre (15,344-foot) level just 30 minutes before its scheduled landing in Geneva and two minutes after the pilot was given permission to descend to 18,700 feet (5,700 metres).

The pieces of wreckage Cossen found on Friday had been carried by the glacier to the 2,600-metre (8,530-foot) level.

Questions about the cause of the crash centre on a possible fault in the altimeter or pilot error.

Differences remain between India and Nepal

KATHMANDU, Aug 27, (Reuters): The leaders of India and Nepal will meet next month to unravel a trade dispute that has blocked supplies to the Himalayan kingdom, but important differences remain between the two nations, analysts said.

India's Minister of External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao left here yesterday after meeting Nepal's King Birendra and arranging a meeting with

India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in Belgrade.

Rao told reporters the visit was a big success. "The way ahead for the summit has been cleared, after that we hope for the breakthrough."

But his Nepali counterpart was considerably more restrained.

"The visit and dialogue have taken place," Foreign Minister Shailendra Upadhyaya said in a statement issued

to reporters. "We have agreed to continue the dialogue further."

Rao's visit was the first serious effort to break the five-month old quarrel which has brought severe economic hardships to landlocked Nepal, one of the world's 10 poorest countries.

Relations deteriorated in March when India shut down fuel supplies and closed all but two border crossings for Nepali imports when the two sides

failed to agree on terms for renewing expired trade and transit treaties.

The impact on Nepal was shattering, causing widespread shortages and forcing fuel-starved factories to close down.

Nepal reacted by ending duty-free privileges for goods from India, which until then accounted for 40 per cent of its total imports.

Nepal wants India to reopen the 13 border transit points closed in March

so imports can return to normal. But Rao made no commitments on that, a senior Nepali journalist close to the government said.

"The visit was designed as a publicity stunt because of the coming elections in India," he said.

New Delhi was outraged when Nepal bought anti-aircraft guns from China last year. India argues that a 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship gives it

a big say in Nepal's security affairs.

Nepal bought the Chinese guns after India dropped food over rural areas of Sri Lanka in 1987 against the expressed wishes of the Sri Lankan government, one Nepalese source said.

"We felt insecure after that and bought a small number of anti-aircraft guns although we know they are not enough to stop the Indian Air Force," he said.

Chandraswami blamed

'New twist in Singh's affair'

By Jadraksha Porter
Arab Times staff

NEW DELHI, Aug 27: While Indian dailies continue with contradictory reports about the authenticity of documents linked to opposition leader V.P. Singh's alleged foreign bank account, the Sunday Press today speaks of the mastermind behind the allegations, and a possible new twist in the affair which grabbed the headlines in the national press last week.

This revolves around a letter by President Sese Seko Mobutu of Zaire alleging that Indian politicians received kickbacks, the Sunday Mail, quoting the ruling Congress (I) Party strategists, said.

The letter, expected to be published soon, would be the next missile against Singh, blustered the Sunday Mail.

The Arab Times report of Aug 20, quoting Indian political sources, suggested that Singh illegally obtained funds which he later placed in a foreign bank, through commodity deals, including the one for copper from Zaire, sealed in the national press last week.

Chandraswami is the kingpin in the blitzkrieg on Singh's Janata Dal Party, contends the Sunday Mail.

Amid wide speculation about allegations against Singh an underlying feature of the complex Indian political scene, namely the questionable loyalty to the party both in the ruling Congress (I) and the opposition, is coming to the fore.

Surprised that Singh had learnt about accusations against him before they were made public, the Congress (I) Party leaders suspect there is a mole in their ranks, the Mail said.

Singh does not make any bones about it. In his letter to Rajiv Gandhi he said he learnt from the prime minister's inner circle of the plots to discredit him.

But even in his own camp there is concern about the "neutrality" of some members of Sin-

gh's Janata Dal.

The alleged involvement of Chandraswami, who is said to be close to some of Janata Dal's top leaders and at the same time reportedly exerts substantial influence in the ruling party, does little to dispel fears of betrayal in both camps.

The Sunday Observer claims Chandraswami sought to involve a bank in the Caribbean Island of St Kitts because Singh was supposed to visit the island on Sept 16, 1986, while he was finance minister in Rajiv Gandhi's government. That is the date when first of the six deposits were allegedly made to the account that was purportedly held by Singh's son Ajeya. However, the visit was cancelled, the fact which Chandraswami overlooked, according to the paper.

The weekly goes on to say that Chandraswami showed documents of Singh's alleged bank account in the First Trust Corporation in St Kitts to Arif M. Khan, an MP and former Congress (I) member who defected to Janata Dal.

Khan told the Arab Times that he learnt about Singh's alleged account last year from his own sources. He immediately informed Singh, he added.

He vowed to quit politics if the documents are proven to be genuine.

The authenticity of documents is hotly disputed in the daily press. Quoting George Maclean, the former managing director of the First Trust Corporation in St Kitts, the pro-government Hindustan Times claimed the account number 39479 did exist. This was allegedly the number of the account held by Singh's son Ajeya.

The pro-opposition Indian Express countered with claims attributed to Maclean's former secretary Anne Sorenson saying that all accounts at the First Trust Corporation Ltd, which ceased to operate last year, had six digits. She also disputed the authenticity of the bank's stamp on the alleged bank statements published in the press here.

Meanwhile, Rajiv answered V.P. Singh's charge that the prime minister was plotting to kill him by ordering tighter security for the opposition leader. Instructions have been issued to increase the number of security guards at Singh's residence.

Call for a new Lanka govt

Search for Fokker

ISLAMABAD, Aug 27, (KUNA): Search operations to locate the Pakistani International Airlines Fokker plane, which disappeared seven minutes after take-off from Gilgit Airport for Islamabad with 54 people aboard on Friday morning, proved unsuccessful again today.

A PIA spokesman said that due to bad weather operations started 96 minutes late and were suspended about three hours before sunset.

In all six sorties were carried out in the air by planes and helicopters of the Pakistan Air Force, the Army aviation, the PIA, the United Nations observation group from Jananu and Kashmir State and the Aga Khan Foundation.

The areas scanned by the searchers include the Indus Valley and the Nanga Parbat area on the basis of information given by two British trekkers who said they had seen a plane flying near a glacier below Nanga Parbat on Friday morning. They have volunteered to join the search operations.

Tropical storm Felix

MIAMI, Aug 27, (UPI): Forecasters at the National Hurricane Centre turned their attention to tropical storm Felix in the far eastern Atlantic today, as the remains of Hurricane Erin spun through the north Atlantic.

Felix, which formed as tropical depression Friday and reached tropical storm strength yesterday, was expected to turn to the northwest on a path that would take it out of harm's way.

"It hasn't strengthened. It is the same strength and it will probably be turning to the northwest and not be of any concern to people in the western Atlantic," said Hal Gerish, a hurricane forecaster at the centre.

"There is a possibility, depending on its path, it could strengthen a little bit," he added. "It depends on how fast it turns."

Loiterers to be shot

NAIROBI, Kenya, Aug 27, (AP): In an effort to intensify the war against poachers and bandits, President Daniel Arap Moi has ordered game rangers to shoot on sight people loitering in Kenya's national reserves.

"We want tourists to enjoy peace and tranquillity now prevailing within the country. Anyone found loitering in the parks shall be shot," he told a public meeting loitering in the parks yesterday.

Demand

The statement demanded fresh elections and the establishment of a provisional all-party government, which would include the radicals, to replace the government of President Ranasinghe Premadasa.

There has been no response to the call from Premadasa, who was elected last December. His United National Party won a majority last February in a parliamentary poll.

Among the signatories to the document was Sirimavo Bandaranaike, the former prime minister and leader of the main opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which holds 67 seats in the 225-member Parliament.

Other signatories were the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front, which holds 10 seats, Sri Lanka Muslim Congress with four seats and the United Socialist Alliance and the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna with Party three seats each.

Only the Elavaru Democratic Front, a little more than six-month-old and holding 13 seats, did not sign the joint appeal.

The United National Party holds 125 seats in Parliament.

"The economy is plummeting rapidly and the prices of essentials are rocketing up," the statement said. "The executive presidential system and the President have totally failed to prevent disarray in public life."

Political observers in Colombo attached great significance to the statement, saying it heaped criticism primarily on the president.

"It's cleverly intended to isolate President Ranasinghe Premadasa from other members of his government and voice the feelings and fears entertained the latter," one analyst said.

He added: "Moreover, all signatories to the appeal are parties with close and cordial ties with India."

Killings

Premadasa, who assumed the presidency nine months ago, has come under criticism for his handling of the country's ethnic crisis, which is threatening to plunge the republic into a civil war.

At least 5,000 people have been killed in a two-year-old campaign by Sinhalese nationalists.

Officials say 1,130 of the killings have taken place in the last six weeks. Human rights organisations and opposition politicians say many of the victims have been suspected radicals shot after capture by security forces.

On Friday, at least 20 villagers were shot and killed in Tirapame, 165 kilometres (100 miles) northeast of Colombo, after the parents of a soldier were shot and killed by suspected Sinhalese radicals.

Residents in Anuradhapura, 20 kilometres (12 miles) from Tirapame, blamed the attack on soldiers, and said it apparently was to avenge the killing of their colleague's parents.

Military officials said five people were killed yesterday when unidentified gunmen ambushed a convoy of Sri Lankan and Indian soldiers near the town of Vavuniya, 215 kilometres (135 miles) north of Colombo.

The officials said they were unsure who was responsible for the attack.

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INTERNATIONAL

**Satellite
rivals
battle for
ratings**

LONDON, Aug 27. (Reuters): Britain's two rival satellite broadcasting companies are squaring off for a multi-million-dollar ratings war but viewers are sceptical about television's much heralded new dawn.

British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB), whose Marpolo satellite was being launched from Florida's Cape Canaveral today, faces Australian-born media magnate Rupert Murdoch's Sky Television, on the air since February.

Neither network is finding the audience for the British living room easy or cheap.

There is also stiff competition from the established networks: the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and independent television (ITV).

BSB is funded by a group of 10 shareholders, including Australian brewing tycoon Alan Bond and Pearson PLC, which owns Britain's Financial Times newspaper.

They have already put up 424 million pounds sterling (\$665 million) and must find a further 400 million pounds (\$628 million) early next year, making BSB Britain's second biggest privately launched project after the Channel Tunnel.

Murdoch has spent 75 million pounds (\$120 million) on Sky in the five months since it was launched and will spend that much again before the end of its first year.

Sky estimates its losses at around two million pounds (\$3 million) a week. Sales of satellite receiving dishes for the network's five channels of news, sport, films and entertainment got off to a slower than expected start.

"We would hope to be in a break-even position in three years on a month-to-month basis," said Peter Stechenberger, finance director of Murdoch's media group News International.

Sky expects to double the number of dishes installed to more than one million by February next year.

But even at that figure its audience will be tiny compared with BBC and ITV, whose soap opera regularly attract around 18 million viewers.

BSB was due to go on the air next month. The launch has been delayed until early next year because of technical problems with receiving dishes and the microchip used to decode transmissions.

Sky believes it has benefited from being on the air ahead of its rival but concedes that many viewers may be waiting for BSB — which is also offering five channels — to get started before deciding which satellite service to buy.

Viewers who want both systems will have to buy two sets of receiving equipment.

The advent of satellite broadcasting has prompted warnings from the television establishment that the fight for views will bring a rash of downmarket and pornographic programmes to British screens.

Colin Shaw, director of the government's watchdog Broadcasting Standards Council, has said satellite broadcasters might turn to sex films "when the money runs out."

Murdoch says television should be subject to the laws of supply and demand.

**Driver
admits
car heist**

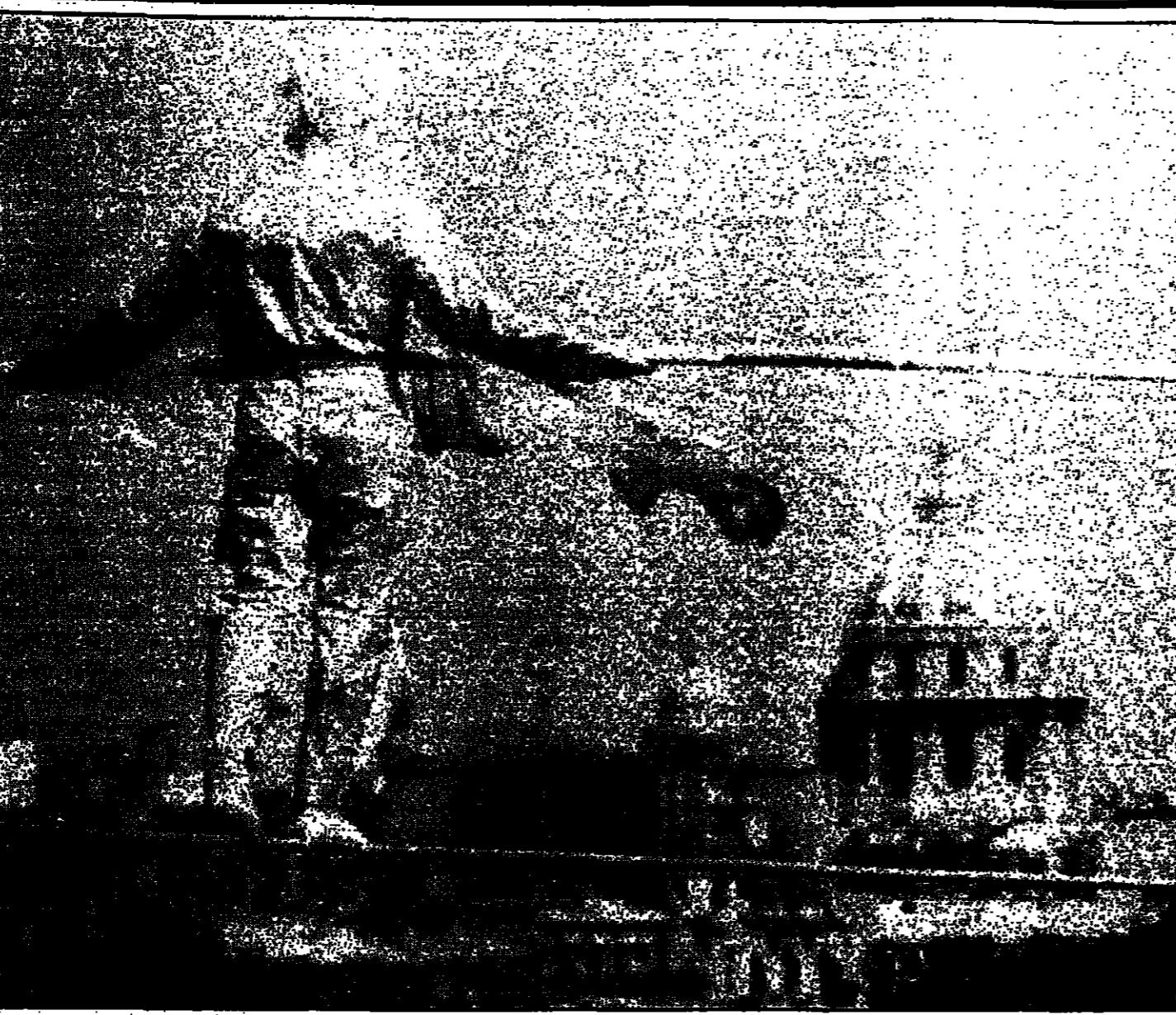
NEW YORK, Aug 27. (AP): The driver of an armoured car that was robbed earlier in the week of \$500,000 has confessed to the robbery and the shooting of a guard who was critically wounded, authorities said yesterday.

Wycliff Warner, 26, of New York City, shot his partner in the head Tuesday and made off with the money, according to police spokesman, Sgt. Ed Burns. A friend of Warner's, Cuthbert Joseph, 28, was arrested Friday.

Police recovered all but \$200 of the stolen money in the Bronx borough apartment of Warner's friend.

The wounded guard, Billy Mackworth, 30, remained in critical condition at Jacobi Hospital, Burns said.

Burns said Warner fabricated the initial version of the robbery Tuesday outside a Marine Midland Savings Bank in the Hunts Point section of the Bronx. Warner had said two men and a woman staged a traffic accident to get him to open the truck door.



Petit crosses the River Seine from the Trocadero to the Eiffel Tower on Saturday in Paris. The Invalides dome is shown in the background. (Reuters wirephoto)

High-wire act wows Paris

PARIS, Aug 27. (Reuters): "My feet are sore," complained tightrope stiltman Philippe Petit, white-faced and exhausted after a 50-minute walk on the high wire over the River Seine to the Eiffel Tower.

The 40-year-old Frenchman had just crossed the river his way — pacing along a 700-metre (yard) cable strung between the right bank's Palais De Chaillot and the second floor of Gustave Eiffel's Iron Lady on the other side.

"My head was full of pure and beautiful things, I felt a profound joy, almost like a child, an engulfing elation," Petit said afterward, looking windswept and tired but triumphant.

"The hardest part was not letting my joy surpass the control I needed to continue. I was invaded by a joy that was almost dangerous because I had my life in my hands."

Up to 10,000 Parisians packed balconies and stood on river banks, bridges and barges to applaud his unprecedented walk on yesterday.

One hundred metres (300 feet) above the Seine, he knelt, lay and performed gymnastics on the 29-millimetre (1.1 inch) wide steel wire,

pausing to rip off a silvery flying suit and emerge in a rainbow-coloured trapeze outfit.

Fighting gusting winds of up to 13 miles (21 kilometres) an hour, Petit seemed to tire in the last stretch of the walk, a 16-degree uphill climb from the belly of the high wire.

But he stripped off his slippers and covered the final metres barefoot, sliding down a rope onto the tower.

The stunt, the longest in Petit's career, was authorised by Paris authorities to commemorate the declaration of human rights, adopted 200 years ago by the revolutionary French parliament.

As a cannon boomed from tower's first floor, Petit set out from the Palais De Chaillot Esplanade, dedicated to human rights, holding a copy of the historic declaration.

When he reached the tower, he handed Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac the declaration, kissed his seven-year-old daughter Cordy-Gypsic and told reporters:

• "I was invaded by a kind of joy, which in fact was the most dangerous thing, as I was holding my life in my hands. I was afraid I would be too happy and lose concentration.

• "Such moments of purity and beauty only

come to you up there," added Petit, who had dyed his hair to match his costume.

• "It was terrifying. I guess I was more terrified than I was," commented one onlooker, British tourist Vicki Jewell.

Petit, who lives in New York, said he planned to walk across the Grand Canyon in Arizona next summer. His other exploits have included a tightrope walk between the twin towers of the Notre Dame Cathedral and between the towers of New York's World Trade Centre.

He has been arrested more times than he cares to remember for unauthorised high wire walks but says he is determined to continue persuading the public to gaze skywards.

"Nowadays, we're living in a century where no one ever looks at the sky — I want to lift onlookers' minds and spirits by drawing the most beautiful pictures in the world up there."

Petit also complained that his tongue was sore but did not make clear whether this was due to his loquacity or just biting it in anxiety during his stunt over The Seine.

The walk was the highlight of celebrations marking the bicentennial of the declaration of the rights of man.

They contend winds may have

wave the plane southeast of its destination, Howland Island, toward Nikumaroro. With only two hours of fuel left, Ms Earhart and Noonan decided to fly south toward Nikumaroro because they knew there were no other islands to the north of their flight path within range of their remaining fuel, Willi and Gannon contend.

"We're just amazed that nobody ever figured this out before," Gannon said. "The whole thing was a navigation problem. I guess it took two navigators to hopefully solve it."

Although it was widely thought the US Navy searched the island, Willi and Gannon said they found out that float planes from the battleship USS Colorado flew over but no search party ever landed there.

Newman film in a spot**Hostage in protectionist mess**

PARIS, Aug 27. (AP): The producer filming a movie starring actor Paul Newman said yesterday that the film has been taken hostage in a protectionist squabble between the United States and France.

Work on "Mr and Mrs Bridges," directed by James Ivory and starring Newman and his wife Joanne Woodward, continued yesterday on private property and so was not immediately affected by Mayor Jacques Chirac's decision Friday to suspend all authorisations for shooting of US films in Paris.

But the film was to move to a public bridge over the Seine river today, and producer Ismail Merchant

said it was not entirely clear whether the production could go on.

"We got a call this morning from Chirac's office saying it was okay. Then someone else called saying something else. When you are working with huge stars and only have six days here, it makes things very difficult. It's like being hostages," said Merchant in an interview in the bar at the Raphael Hotel, one of the locations in the film.

The movie — by Merchant-Ivory productions, who also made the international hit "Room With A View" — was scheduled to shoot until Thursday throughout Paris.

City haunted by air crash

W. Germans protest

RAMSTEIN, West Germany, Aug 27. (AP): The crash of a stunt-flying team one year ago at the Ramstein Air Show has become a haunting memory for survivors and a rallying point for critics opposed to low-level military training flights.

Disaster struck on Aug 28, when a flaming jet performing stunts burst into more than 300,000 spectators, hurtled into a crowd at the US air base in Ramstein, killing at least 70 people and injuring about 450 others.

"Never again" and "Stop low-level flights" read some of the banners unfurled in the march led by the leftist group "Let Us Not Forget."

The demonstrators also carried 70 crucifixes symbolising the dead.

Later the group watched a mock hearing, complete with five-member jury, that harshly criticised West German and US officials involved in planning the air show.

Ramstein's conservative Mayor Julius Divivier had refused to let the group use the town hall for the event, saying it reminded him of the "show trials" of the Nazi era.

The US Air Force held an anniversary remembrance at the Ramstein base on Friday.



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OFFER CLOSES 31st DECEMBER, 1989

**Thousands of cowpokes saddling up for Montana cattle drive**

HELENA, Montana, Aug 27. (AP): Thousands of real and fancied cowpokes are about to saddle up for a cattle drive aimed at re-creating the aura of the Old West — with a couple of modern twists such as night entertainment and cold beer.

The drive, which begins Sept. 4, will involve some 3,000 people — about 100 of

them drivers paid to keep the 4,000 cattle in line and the rest people indulging in nostalgia.

The event is one of many celebrating Montana's becoming a state 100 years ago, back when its wide open spaces were unsupplied by fences. Cattlemen drove tens of thousands of animals at a time to market across the vast plains that earned Montana

the nickname of "The Big Sky State."

This year's drive will roll southward 60 miles (100 kilometers) in six days from the evocatively named hamlet of roundup to Billings, home of an important livestock market.

Would-be cowhands are coming from as

far away as Japan and Australia.

"This drive will not be of the Hollywood

cowboy school, but rather a 1989 drive which will honour and pay tribute to all the great drives of the past," said Stan Lynde,

an originator of the idea.

The basic plan, as conceived by Lynde, Barry McWilliams and Jim Wempner, was to re-create an old-time drive and let the public help drive the cattle to market, then sell the herd and go home.

Box top of Lipton's 50's teabags also valid for this promotion.

US plans 35 space exploration missions in next 5 years

PASADENA, Calif., Aug. 27. (Agencies): The United States is entering a second golden age of space research with 35 missions scheduled over the next five years, some to be co-operative efforts with the Soviet Union, NASA said yesterday.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration official Leonard Fisk, speaking as Voyager 2 headed into oblivion after its close encounter with Neptune, told a news conference the rate of missions to be launched is the highest in US history.

The missions include the Galileo probe to Jupiter, scheduled for an October launch from a space shuttle, mission to Mars, the moon, Venus and Saturn and a study of the Earth's environment, he said.

"We are going to be awash in new scientific discoveries," Fisk said at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory where scientists are studying photographs sent back by Voyager 2.

"We plan to continue our space research

programme into the indefinite future," he added.

Fisk said the Soviet Union will co-operate with the United States on some of the missions.

"In the past two years contacts have gone from arm's length to doing things together," he said. "I suspect this relationship will continue to evolve."

"We'll be placing an orbiter about every accessible body in the solar system and producing significant understanding of the planets that we're going to be studying," said Fisk.

Voyager 2's flyby of Neptune on Thursday was the spacecraft's fourth and final planetary flyby before sailing out of the solar system and into the lonely spaces between the stars.

During the course of its 12-year, 4.4-billion-mile space odyssey, the nuclear-powered probe explored Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and a host of moons. With its flyby of Neptune, American spacecraft have visited or flown past every planet in the solar system except Pluto.

"In many ways, it's the end of an era," said Fisk. "It's the last time we see a planet for the first time; it's the end of the reconnaissance phase of planetary exploration."

The Voyager 2 mission, then, marks the completion of humanity's preliminary reconnaissance of Earth's home in the cosmos and, now, NASA is gearing up to launch a scientific assault, a series of long-term missions that will return far more data than possible with brief, high-speed flybys.

"What is coming up is an era of literally unprecedented excitement and activity," Fisk said.

The centrepieces of the new age of exploration are the planned flights of Cassini and CRAF, an acronym for "Comet Rendezvous and Flyby Mission."

CRAF, scheduled for launch by a Titan-4 rocket on Aug. 22, 1995, will rendezvous and flyby a comet with comet Kopff.

Stamp out drugs: Mitterrand

US arrests couple for smuggling Medellin cash

PARIS, Aug. 27. (Reuter): French President Francois Mitterrand yesterday urged the international community to help Colombia and other countries stamp out drug trafficking and rid the world of "agents of death."

In a speech marking the adoption exactly 200 years ago of the declaration of the rights of man and the inauguration of a new human rights foundation, Mitterrand said no compromise was possible with drug peddlars.

"Take stock of the murderous strength of drug traffickers who set themselves up as powers in competition with states," Mitterrand said in a reference to Colombia, where cocaine gangs have declared "total war" on the government.

"Dare to think and say that no compromise is possible with this chain of corruption, these agents of death. Let us organise against them for the defence of man ... and display solidarity with those fighting in the front line."

Mitterrand was addressing an audience of 500 dignitaries at the top of the white marble Arche de la Fraternite, Paris's latest landmark.

He did not mention Colombia by name and made no specific proposals on how Colombian authorities, granted an emergency aid package worth \$65 million by the United States on Friday, could be helped to overcome well-armed and financed drug barons.

The new foundation, named after the Arch, will be headed by former Socialist Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson and dedicated to the defence of human rights.

Its offices are situated on the penthouse floor of the Arch, where leaders of the seven major non-communist industrialised powers met for an annual summit in July.

Meanwhile, a couple arrested this weekend surrounded by what one officer called "enough money to bathe in" has been charged with running an operation that transported nearly \$350 million to the Medellin drug cartel.

John Posada, 28, of Medellin, Colombia, and his wife, Deysi, 26 of Venezuela, were arrested yesterday at their residence outside New York City on Long Island, said Art Stiffel, a special agent with the US Customs Service.

Both were charged with money laundering and conspiracy. Mrs Posada is additionally charged with making false statements for giving police a false name, Stiffel said.

The couple was held without bail at the metropolitan correctional facility in New York City pending a hearing Thursday.

An infant believed to be their child was taken from the home, he said.

He said \$4 million in \$10- and \$20 bills and a money rolling device were confiscated during the arrest. No drugs were found in the apartment.

The arrests came after a week-long probe by the US Customs Department, the US Drug Enforcement Administration, and police.

The couple allegedly had been laundering between \$48 million and \$50 million per year for the past seven years to the Colombia-based Medellin cartel, the



A gunner watches below while flying in a US-supplied helicopter over a ranch owned by alleged cocaine producer Gacha. (Reuter wirephoto)



A Colombian soldier watches over prisoners at the Gacha ranch after it was raided by government troops on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)

world's largest cocaine selling operation, Stiffel said.

The investigation began with the arrest of a courier with \$250,000 in his luggage who was attempting to fly to Puerto Rico from New York's Laguardia Airport, said Stiffel.

He said the operation employed an average of 16 couriers a month, each carrying over \$200,000 in their suitcases.

The bags, some weighing more than 100 pounds (45 kilograms), were filled with money-lined lightbulbs, bug spray cans and toys. They were checked in at Laguardia Airport and shipped

directly to Colombia for pickup, Stiffel said.

■ President Virgilio Barco, describing his battle against drug traffickers as a crusade, warned Colombians to expect more bloodshed from the crackdown.

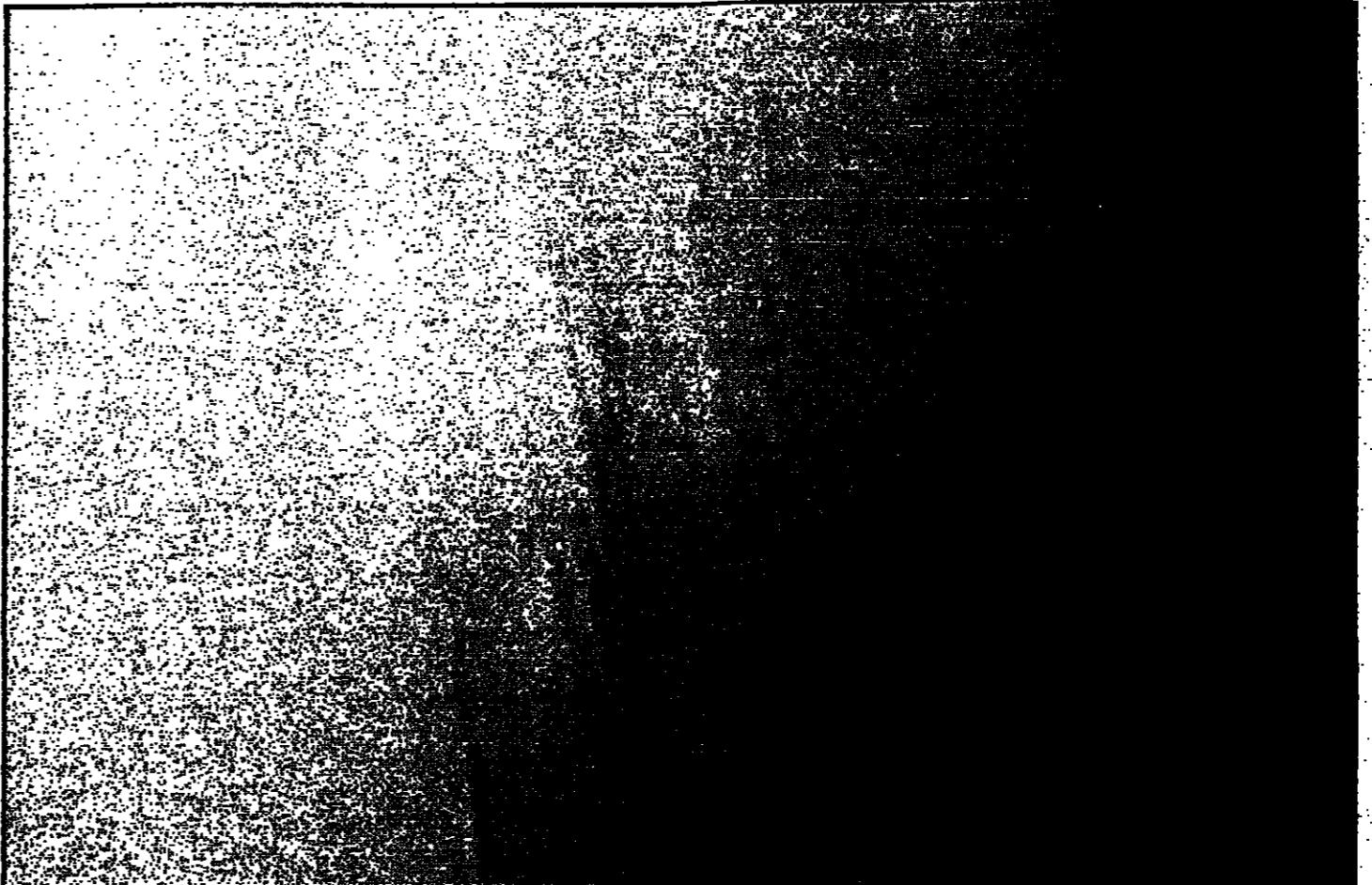
Declaring that Colombia was at war against drug traffickers, Barco said the fight against the Medellin drug cartel "will doubtless leave more blood, pain and suffering."

But he vowed in a televised address late on Friday night: "We will find the (drug) barons and bring them to justice."

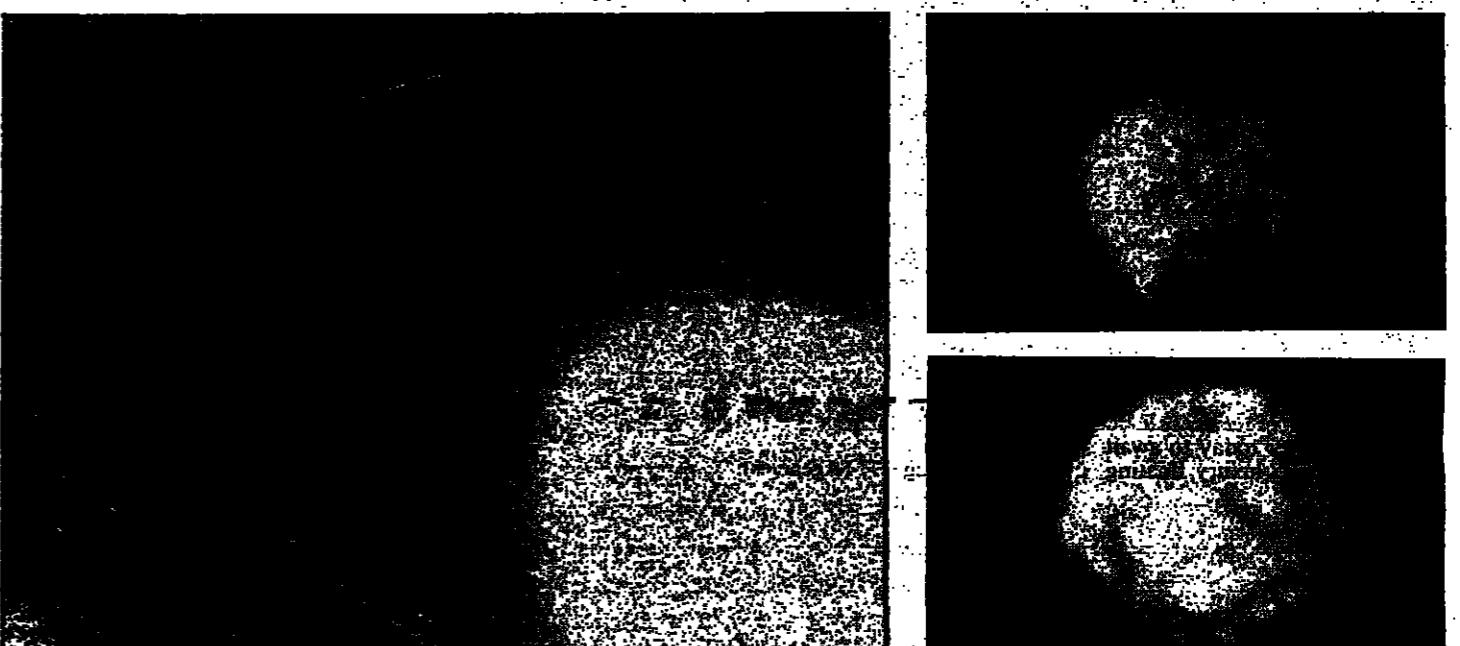
■ A British warship operating in the Caribbean Sea has been ordered to help US efforts to stop narcotics smuggling, a British newspaper reported and government officials confirmed today.

The 3,600-ton frigate HMS Alacrity has been told to look for speedboats, yachts and small planes which might be engaged on the "main cocaine routes into the US," according to the Sunday Express.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said today that during the Alacrity's Caribbean patrols "we will report anything serious of this nature."



This photo, taken two hours before the Voyager 2's closest approach to Neptune provides evidence of vertical relief in the planet's bright cloud streaks. Shadows can be seen on the clouds on the side opposite the sun which is at the lower left of the image. The width of the cloud streaks ranges from 18 to 31 miles. (Reuter wirephoto)



This wide-angle Voyager 2 image was taken through the camera's clear filter and is the first to show Neptune's rings in detail. (Reuter wirephoto)

Voyager 2 tells us more

New rings found around Neptune

PASADENA, California, Aug. 27. (Agencies): Voyager 2 discovered at least one and probably three new rings of icy debris around Neptune, giving the planet as many as five such cosmic strands, along with tumbling boulders of ice — moonlets — imbedded in one ring arc.

University of Arizona astronomer Bradford Smith said yesterday pictures from deep space even show a "hint" of ring-like structure just inside the outermost swath, but "those images have to be processed much further to see what's really there."

The nuclear-powered Voyager 2, departing the solar system after flying past Neptune and its extending nearly 500 miles (800 km) above the extracting ice volcans of the bizarre moon Triton.

And other instruments aboard Voyager 2 detected relatively weak Van Allen-type radiation belts around the planet, a magnetic field tilted 30 degrees away from the pole of Neptune's rotation axis and possible signs of aurora like the "northern lights" visible in Earth's atmosphere.

Auroras are caused when electrically charged particles in the solar wind spiral in toward a planet along magnetic field lines. On Earth they glow in visible light. Neptune's light glow ultraviolet because of hydrogen in its atmosphere.

Scientists are ecstatic over the sheer volume of data returned by the intrepid probe.

"It has really been remarkable how well all of these things have worked. You name it, and it all seems to have worked," said project scientist Edward Stone, prompting a round of applause at the close of a news conference.

Voyager's discovery of new rings around Neptune prompted widespread interest, although exactly how many rings the planet actually has was subject to interpretation.

"How many rings can you count in this

picture?" asked Smith pointing to a fuzzy photograph taken just after Voyager 2's flyby of Neptune on Thursday that showed several bands of diffuse light.

Voyager 2 discovered two rings of debris around Neptune as it approached the planet, and in the picture released yesterday, a new ring was clearly visible, pushing the total to three.

But the middle ring is a broad swath of debris with a complex structure that Smith believes is, in reality, three separate rings pushing Neptune's total to five. He said the structure just inside the outermost ring, but that feature is related to the other ring and should not be counted separately.

"It was simple when we had an outer ring and an inner ring," he said. "Now we've got lots of rings."

Earth-based evidence had indicated any rings that might exist around Neptune were complete arcs. Pictures from Voyager 2, however, show the rings probably extend all the way around the planet, although at least one feature section that are distinctly lumpy, resembling the partial ring arcs hypothesized before the flyby.

"What we have found is imbedded in that narrow ring are some bodies," Smith said. "The largest and brightest one cannot be any larger than, say, 10 or 20 kilometers (10 or 12 miles wide). They are imbedded right in the ring."

He said Voyager 2 was able to detect signs of six or eight moonlets "in one of the brighter segments of the outermost ring; in other words, in that region we are calling a ring arc."

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Tear gas fired at boat people

HONG KONG, Aug 27. (AP): Police fired tear gas today to quell Vietnamese refugees who threw stones and injured eight policemen, a police spokeswoman said.

The spokeswoman said the disturbance erupted as police were distributing rice to boat people on the outlying island of Tai a Chau. Some of the 1,000 Vietnamese gathered on the pier began throwing stones at police, she added.

Police fired 40 rounds of tear gas to bring the situation under control, said the spokeswoman, who declined to be further identified.

It was the first time tear gas had been used to halt unrest among Vietnamese who fled here seeking a better life, she said.

She said the reason for the disturbance was not known and no one was arrested.

About 5,000 Vietnamese boat people are staying temporarily on the island before they are inoculated and put into detention centres to await screening.

Under a "policy" adopted in June 1988, Vietnamese boat people will be granted refugee status and resettled overseas only if they can prove they fled political persecution in Vietnam. Otherwise, they would be considered illegal immigrants and face repatriation.

About 55,000 Vietnamese are staying in Hong Kong. Two-thirds of them are kept in prison-like centres, waiting to be screened.

Earlier this month, Vietnamese battled each other with iron bars, stones and sharpened objects at the Whitehead detention centre, leaving 17 people injured.

Also in early August, 200 Vietnamese in two rival groups hurled stones at each other at the Shamshuipo centre.

Last month, about 200 Vietnamese at Sek Kong camp hurled stones at police who tried to prevent detainees from slipping through holes cut in the camp's wire fence.

Thousands of residents lined the Saigon river today to await the arrival of a luxury floating hotel as it neared the end of its long voyage from Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The \$70 million hotel—a symbol of Vietnam's new open-door policy—is to be moored along the city's downtown waterfront. Officials hope it will attract foreign businessmen, investors and tourists.

But the Saigon Floating hotel, as it is now called, had a tricky baptism at the mouth of the river and was not expected to arrive until Monday. It broke its tow lines soon after it was slipped from the deck of the semi-submersible lift ship Super Servant, which had brought it from Australia.

There were initial fears that the six-storey, 1,700-ton hotel could be blown like a giant sail into the South China Sea, but tugs brought it under control.

Many here regard the hotel as a symbol of the city's re-emerging spirit after the dark years of economic hardship and tight political control that followed the communist victory in 1975.

Burhan Shahidi, 95, dies

BEIJING, Aug 27. (Reuters): Burhan Shahidi, a Chinese Muslim who was in turn a revolutionary in the Soviet Union, a nationalist diplomat, a suspected German spy and then adviser to the mainland communists, died today. He was 95.

The official New China News Agency said Burhan died in a Beijing hospital of a heart attack.

An ethnic Uyghur, Burhan was born in 1894 in the northwest region of Xinjiang, an area of intense intrigue in the "great game" between Britain and Russia, later the Soviet Union, for influence over central Asia.

Burhan studied in Russia and Berlin. He began his revolutionary career in Moscow in 1933 before serving as a consul for the nationalist Chinese government in Chisan in the Soviet Union in 1937.

He returned to Xinjiang in 1938 but then Governor Sheng Shicai, who with Soviet help carried out mass arrests and executions of suspected fascists, accused Burhan of spying for the Nazis and jailed him for several years.

Burhan joined the Chinese communists in 1949. They appointed him their first governor of Xinjiang.

Along with many Muslims he was persecuted for his religion during the decade-long cultural revolution launched by Mao Tse-tung in 1956.

Manila to destroy seized guns

MANILA, Aug 27. (Reuters): President Corazon Aquino has ordered the destruction of thousands of guns seized from smugglers and unauthorized holders, including about 150 Israeli-made Uzi assault rifles imported by Philippine Congressmen.

"We have to make a bold move to give a signal to gun smugglers that the government will not tolerate their illegal activities," Aquino said.

There was no official word how many guns would be destroyed but military sources said there were thousands. Officials said they would be destroyed in public but did not say when.

"Uzis should be burned," a presidential spokesman quoted Aquino as telling cabinet officials yesterday.

"We should institute more deterrents against the proliferation of loose firearms. This accounts for the increase in crime,"

The spokesman said Aquino was worried that firearms seized from criminals and unauthorized holders might fall into undesirable hands.

Officials said Aquino's order would include 150 Uzis imported by Congressmen last year and now in army custody.

News reports said they were the first of 600 weapons Congressmen ordered from abroad after army officers nearly toppled Aquino in a bloody coup attempt in August 1987. An investigation later revealed 122 out of 200 Congressmen had ordered from three to 38 guns each.

There were allegations that government funds were used to buy the guns. The lawmakers said they used their own money to buy weapons needed for their protection.

The military say rebels or criminals have about 180,000 firearms. About 300,000 are held legally by civilians and guns are a frequent sight in public places.

Montano said the battalion would be transferred

Manila fires commander

MANILA, Philippines, Aug 27. (Agencies): A battalion commander has been relieved and his troops will undergo retraining after suffering a major defeat at the hands of communist rebels earlier this month, the military announced.

Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano announced yesterday that he had relieved Col. Nestor Adaza, commander of the 58th Infantry Battalion, after his troops wandered into a rebel ambush Aug 20 on Mindanao island.

Eleven soldiers were killed and 12 wounded after the clash in Surigao del Sur province, the military said. Troops also lost firearms and communications equipment in the ambush, Montano said.

Montano said the battalion would be transferred

to camp Evangelista for retraining under a new commander. Another battalion will be deployed to Surigao del Sur province, Montano said.

Battalions here normally have more than 300 officers and men.

A week ago, a platoon of its 58th fell into a trap as it chased a lone rebel through a village and was ambushed by about 100 guerrillas.

A spokesman said today the 600-man battalion also suffered defeats by the rebels in April and May.

Philippine armed forces Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa is at present in Washington to urge the United States to speed up supplies needed to fight the 20-year insurgency.

Rebel soldiers

A July 22, 1989 file photo of rebel soldiers standing before a military court on charges of involvement in the August 1987 coup attempt against President

Corazon Aquino, the fifth and bloodiest Army mutiny during her presidency. (Reuter wirephoto)

Chinese begin security checks

UK wants fresh HK talks

LONDON, Aug 27. (KUNA): Britain was heading for a new diplomatic confrontation with China just hours after the announcement that the Prince and Princess of Wales will not visit Hong Kong in November, it was reported here today.

The Sunday Express newspaper said that British Foreign Secretary John Major has ordered British diplomats to seek changes to the draft deal for handing over the colony in 1997.

Major wants new negotiations when officials from the two countries meet next month because the present agreement allows China's leaders to declare martial law in Hong Kong and send in tanks at the "nearest" of a protest after the takeover.

Relations between Britain and China have been strained since the crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Beijing.

Major wants to reassure the six million Hong Kong Chinese that they will not be abandoned when China takes control, the Sunday Express concluded.

■ Britain's Prince Charles and Lady Diana will visit Indonesia in November as guests of President Suharto, the official news agency Antara reported today.

Officials in a series of meetings last week to keep up the fight against "bourgeois liberalism," or Western liberal thought.

They ordered leaders in all work units to "mobilise the masses to make reports and expose clues to counter-revolutionary elements."

Beijing residents say there have been relatively few cases of neighbour reporting on neighbour, as was common in the 1966-76 cultural revolution and earlier political campaigns. They say many work units are quite easily becoming concealed over their successes and discouraged over obstacles.

■ Accused by demonstrators of nepotism and corruption during months of pro-democracy protests, the children and spouses of China's top leaders have all quit their business jobs, according to an official report.

The greatest danger in inspection work is to pause, to treat big matters as small and let small matters go, to give up half-way," Li told one meeting, the Beijing daily reported. "Our party and nation still face a life-and-death

struggle."

The hard-line officials who led the crackdown have shown no sign of easing their attacks on the ideological front.

Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong and Communist Party secretary Li Ximing instructed local

students in a four-hour meeting on Friday that the party's current policy of classing intellectuals among the working class would not change. During the first decades of communist rule, intellectuals were not classed with workers but were vilified as bourgeois.

Jiang said most students are fervent patriots, but that they lack political experience and too easily become concealed over their successes and discouraged over obstacles.

■ Accused by demonstrators of nepotism and corruption during months of pro-democracy protests, the children and spouses of China's top leaders have all quit their business jobs, according to an official report.

The New China News Agency did not name individuals but said relatives of top Communist Party and government figures had resigned yesterday, before a September 1 deadline.

The ban on business links was ordered by the party central committee in July and applies to the children and spouses of about 20 top leaders.

■ A Chinese youth, facing expulsion from South Korea as his visa expires, appealed today for Taiwan to accept him as a political refugee who would face punishment at home for anti-government acts.

He returned to Xinjiang in 1938 but then Governor Sheng Shicai, who with Soviet help carried out mass arrests and executions of suspected fascists, accused Burhan of spying for the Nazis and jailed him for several years.

Burhan joined the Chinese communists in 1949. They appointed him their first governor of Xinjiang.

Along with many Muslims he was persecuted for his religion during the decade-long cultural revolution launched by Mao Tse-tung in 1956.

It was however seen as not only a resignation from his own faction but also the

Malaysia rescues smuggled babies

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 27. (AP): Police and immigration authorities were investigating reports that at least 10 Indonesian babies had been smuggled into Malaysia's Sarawak state for sale, an official said today.

Deputy Home Affairs Minister Megat Junid Megat Ayub told reporters in Tanjung Malim, 150 kilometres (90 miles) north of Kuala Lumpur, that a regional defence corps team had rescued 10 Indonesian babies in a raid, the national news agency Bernama said.

It said the babies, ranging in age from a few days to two months, were rescued on Thursday at Santan, about 30 kilometres (19 miles) from Kuching, 870 kilometres (540 miles) southeast of Kuala Lumpur.

The infants, kept under a shelter for drying coconuts, were rescued before they could be sent to buyers, but one died from heat, it added.

It said 10 people were detained and two more escaped into nearby forests in the state on Borneo island.

The babies were taken to the government hospital in Kuching.

Many babies have been smuggled from Thailand and sold in peninsular Malaysia. Authorities have rescued some smuggled babies and sent them back to Thailand, and others are in hospitals waiting to be identified and picked up by their mothers.

The babies were taken to the government hospital in Kuching.

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Many babies have been smuggled from Thailand and sold



A supporter flashes a V for victory sign as others try to shake hands with Mazowiecki, left, who came to Czestochowa, Poland, on Saturday to pray at the Jasna Gora monastery. (Reuter wirephoto)

Moscow gives Mazowiecki its blessing

Polish workers support prime minister

WARSAW, Aug 27. (Agencies) Poland's new Prime Minister, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, starts his first full week in office boosted by support from Moscow. workers in two industrial cities and one of the country's senior communists.

But he faces the daunting tasks of trying to solve Poland's pressing economic problems, contain smouldering labour unrest and satisfy the communists and two non-communist parties in putting together his coalition government.

The head of the Soviet KGB Security Service, Vladimir Kryuchkov, gave Moscow's seal of approval to the first government not dominated by communists in Eastern Europe for more than 40 years in an unexpected meeting

with Mazowiecki. "I wished Mazowiecki every success," Kryuchkov said after separate talks yesterday with the prime minister and President Wojciech Jaruzelski. "Everything's fine and there's nothing to worry about."

"I liked Mazowiecki. He's a man of principles. He knows how to present things," Kryuchkov said looking relaxed after talks in the Council of Ministers, the Polish government's headquarters in Warsaw.

Soviet backing is vital for Mazowiecki, jailed for a year when Poland's communist authorities imposed martial law in 1981 to crush the free trade union Solidarity. The union was legalized only four months ago.

Orthodox leaderships in Czechoslovakia, Romania and East Germany oppose reforms and fear the events in Poland will trigger popular demands for change in their own countries.

But Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has encouraged reforms abroad and one of his major concerns appears to be a calm, stable relationship with Poland — traditionally a strong ally — as he deals with growing unrest at home.

Mazowiecki sent a key signal to the Kremlin soon after he was elected last Thursday by saying he would not pull Poland out of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact military alliance. He has given assurances that he wants to build up relations with Moscow.

Moscow is also anxious that industrial unrest over huge food price rises imposed by the communist authorities will not bring back the "anarchy" it says the Solidarity upheaval of 1980-81 produced when strikes spread across the country.

The threat of the first strike since Mazowiecki took office receded yesterday when railwaymen headed an appeal by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa to go back to work in Lodz, Poland's second largest city. They pledged faith in Mazowiecki.

Foundry workers in the south-western city of Katowice called for a six-month strike moratorium to help Mazowiecki, a veteran activist of the

free trade union Solidarity, tackle inflation that is approaching 200 per cent and a \$30 billion debt.

Walesa said today that Mazowiecki had only six months to a year to prove to the public he can solve Poland's pressing economic problems.

"The government can retain public trust for no more than six months to a year. After that time the public has got to see the first signs of improvement in the economy," Walesa told a West German delegation in the Baltic city of Gdansk.

Solidarity officials said Walesa was expected to call for a national strike moratorium this week to help Mazowiecki.

Kaunda wants to size up De Klerk

LUSAKA, Aug 27. (Reuter) - Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda says he wants to test the sincerity of FW de Klerk's pledge to dismantle apartheid when he meets the acting South African president tomorrow for the first time.

"I want to size the man up. I want to know what he stands for," Kaunda told a British television interviewer yesterday.

For de Klerk, the visit to Zambia comes during a crackdown at home against an anti-apartheid campaign, protesting against next month's general election, from which blacks are excluded.

Kaunda, black Africa's fiercest critic of South Africa's apartheid race policies, said the meeting in the Victoria Falls resort town of Livingstone is primarily aimed at getting to know each other.

But few observers doubt that apartheid and the best way to end it will be the main topic of their talks.

Kaunda, who is also chairman of Southern Africa's six frontline states, said he will question de Klerk about a pledge he made to dismantle apartheid. If the South African leader proves trustworthy, he said, they would decide what course of action to follow.

Supporters of peaceful change in South Africa hope Kaunda and de Klerk can reach some understanding and reconcile Southern Africa's most powerful state with its poorer black neighbours after years of hostility.

But Pretoria and the African National Congress (ANC), the main guerrilla organisation fighting white minority rule in South Africa, are deadlocked over the issue of negotiations.

South Africa wants the ANC to renounce violence. The ANC wants the government to free political prisoners, end a state of emergency, urban political groups and withdraw troops from black townships before it will enter into any dialogue.

Kaunda has no formal mandate as a mediator but diplomats said he was likely to brief de Klerk on the ANC's conditions for negotiations and report on his reaction to the ANC and the front-line states.

The Zambian president said yesterday he would not press de Klerk into talks with the ANC "not at this stage."

Kaunda, 65, had met South Africa's then-Prime Minister John Vorster in 1974 at the height of the Rhodesian war and de Klerk's predecessor, President PW Botha, in 1982.

His willingness to meet South Africa's white leaders greeted with reservation by the ANC, outlawed in South Africa and based in Lusaka for the last 20 years.

South Africa's biggest black labour organisations said today they had drawn up a programme of peaceful action to protest against new laws which curb strikes.

Johannesburg. Scores of police moved into a conference of mostly black South African trade-union leaders today and briefly arrested a man reading poetry from the podium.

About 300 delegates from South Africa's two biggest labour groups, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the National Council of Trade Unions, were meeting to discuss how to combat a new labour law which severely curbs strike action.

Mozambique: At least 15 people were killed, including 12 guerrillas, in a nighttime battle in the southern town of Macta, the national news agency AIM reported yesterday.

About 200 rebels of the Mozambican Resistance Movement launched the attack Thursday on Macta.

Sofia blockades Muslim villages

Protestors demand passports

SOFIA, Aug 27. (Reuter) - Bulgarian militia have blockaded six southern villages after Muslims there demanded passports to leave the country, human rights sources said yesterday.

The sources, who are in touch with the local Muslim Pomak minority, said regional officials had refused the request. Eighteen Pomaks suspected of organising the protests were sent for extra military service.

More than 310,000 ethnic Turks have been allowed to leave the country since June.

Western diplomats in Sofia said they had heard reports of deaths during clashes between Pomaks and militia.

But the official news agency BTA denied the reports and the human rights sources said they were also unaware of any deaths or injuries in the area.

In one of the villages, Hvoštene, Pomaks dumped harvested tobacco in the square and told local authorities they would no longer process it.

Five other villages — Blatska, Kornitza, Nazhnitsa, Brestnitsa and Dabnitza — also staged protests and were blockaded by militia.

In a separate incident, human rights activists said four dissenters who staged a hunger strike to demand greater freedoms for ethnic Turks received threats to their lives and were told by police to leave Bulgaria.

Mariana Zlateva, a member of the unofficial independent association for the defence of human rights, told Reuters that one of the dissenters, Vladimir Krastev, had left for Paris. The other three had decided to remain in Bulgaria.

Prague rejects reforms

PRAGUE, Aug 27. (AP) - Ranking Czechoslovakian communists yesterday rejected Hungarian and Polish-style reforms and condemned Western and Soviet bloc activists who participated in Aug 21 anti-government demonstrations.

At a rally in Banská Bystrica, Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes said the communists cannot allow "the weakening of the leading role of the ..." the official CTK news agency reported.

While no country was directly mentioned, Jakes' comments were clearly meant to draw the line between Czechoslovakia, and Hungary and Poland, the Soviet bloc's most daring reformers.

Both of Czechoslovakia's neighbours have committed themselves to a multi-party system and increasingly favour free-market economics. Polish lawmakers on Thursday elected a non-communist prime minister, the first in the East Bloc.

Jakes also condemned "the misuse of visits to Czechoslovakia for interference in our internal affairs, as it was demonstrated on Aug 21," said CTK.

Prague riot police dispersed thousands of demonstrators Aug 21, the 21st anniversary of the Warsaw Pact invasion that crushed attempts to liberalize communism. State news media said that 370 people were detained, including 50 foreigners.

More than 15,000 Roman Catholic faithful gathered to witness the consecration of the first Archbishop of Olomouc in 16 years, the Kathypress reported.

Ethnic Turks flood Bursa

BURSA, Turkey, Aug 27. (AP) - Six centuries after the Ottoman Turks launched their conquest of the Balkans from this city, Bursa is bursting with ethnic Turks fleeing part of the old empire.

This city of Ottoman mosques and modern industrial plants has become a symbol of Turkey's problems in taking in a flood of ethnic Turks leaving Bulgaria.

The difficulties prompted Turkey to impose a visa requirement this week to curtail the immigration.

Since mid-May, 310,000 ethnic Turks have arrived from Bulgaria in one of the largest mass movements of people since World War II.

They say they are escaping a forced assimilation campaign aimed at changing their Muslim names to Slavic ones, wiping out their use of the Turkish language and halting their practice of Islamic rites.

Like immigrants the world over, the Bulgarian Turks flooded into areas where earlier arrivals had established communities. Bursa, 250 kms (150 miles) southwest of Istanbul, received the largest group, an estimated 75,000.

"Enough," mayor Teoman Ozalp said in an interview. "In three months the city population rose by 10 per cent. We cannot cope with it, no city in the world can cope with it."

Immigrants, residents and city officials say the major problem is housing.

Many immigrants have gone to relatives, who are putting up as many as 15 to 20 newcomers in their three-room houses.

About 20,000 immigrants have been given shelter in schools, which will have to be evacuated shortly in preparation for the start of classes Sept 18.

In the shade at a schoolyard, Ismail Sukruoglu Oren spoke about his problems since arriving from Bulgaria four days earlier. The welder had just gotten a job but was unable to find a home for his family.

"It was hell there, but it is trouble here, too," he said.

(See also Page 10)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Alliance urged

SUNDANCE, Utah, Aug 27. (AP) - Soviet and US scientists, politicians and entertainers have urged their governments to forge an "environmental security alliance" to combat global warming.

Actor-filmmaker Robert Redford, who co-sponsored the four-day conference with the Soviet Academy of Science, yesterday read a letter to President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The letter was signed by Redford and space researcher Roald Sagdeev, head of an 11-member Soviet delegation, who said the two nations must co-operate to undo the environmental damage they have incurred.

His comments ended the conference of Soviet and American scientists, political leaders, environmentalists, filmmakers and authors.

The meeting was not as much a scientific conference as it was an attempt to "pass the baton," from scientists to policy-shapers in both countries, who need to take action, Redford said.

Warships may visit

SAN DIEGO, California, Aug 27. (UPI) - Soviet warships may visit San Diego next summer under a military exchange programme that also provides for a marching ship visit by US military vessels to the port city of Vladivostok, the San Diego Union newspaper reported yesterday.

Government sources told the San Diego Union that the exchange was proposed by a State Department-Defense Department interagency council and has been agreed to in principle. No exact date has been set.

The Soviets were offered visits to either San Diego or Honolulu, a diplomatic official told the union.

The San Diego-Vladivostok naval summer visits would be the second in a naval exchange programme that was hammered out in 1983 by Adm. William Crowe, the chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, the Soviet Chief of Staff.

Jakes also condemned "the misuse of visits to Czechoslovakia for interference in our internal affairs, as it was demonstrated on Aug 21," said CTK.

Prague riot police dispersed thousands of demonstrators Aug 21, the 21st anniversary of the Warsaw Pact invasion that crushed attempts to liberalize communism. State news media said that 370 people were detained, including 50 foreigners.

More than 15,000 Roman Catholic faithful gathered to witness the consecration of the first Archbishop of Olomouc in 16 years, the Kathypress reported.

Demonstrator arrested

Two South African policemen arrest a demonstrator outside the main Cape Town branch of First National Bank, the sponsors of an international rugby team, which is currently touring South Africa. (Reuter wirephoto)

Electoral platform

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Aug 27. (AP) - An opposition coalition announced yesterday a platform for next February's elections that focuses on the country's economic crisis.

The platform of the National Opposition Union, or UNO, promises legal titles to peasants who have been given land through the Sandinista Agrarian Reform programme and says those whose land had been confiscated will be compensated.

After winning the scheduled Feb 25 elections, the UNO "government of national salvation" would institute an austerity budget, the platform says.

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Azeris demonstrate

An elderly Azeri woman gestures towards demonstrators outside the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Baku. Several hundred activists from the Azeri Popular Front demonstrated in protest at the arrest of their leader and two aides. The three men were later released. The poster on the right reads: 'Long live human rights' (Reuter wirephoto)

Moscow warning ignored

MOSCOW, Aug 27. (Reuter) - Hundreds of thousands of Moldavians ignored a Kremlin warning to nationalists in the Baltic republics and demonstrated today for their mother tongue to become the republic's official language.

By mid-afternoon, some 300,000 people had poured into the capital city of Kishinev from all over the southwestern Soviet republic, said Yuri Roshka, a spokesman for the Moldavian Popular Front.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda published an article on today denouncing the Moldavian activists as extremists.

But Roshka, contacted by phone from Moscow, said: "There are 300,000 people out there. They are all the extremists."

He said the rally was going ahead despite a strong attack on Baltic nationalists by the Moscow leadership yesterday.

Meanwhile, Baltic activists said they feared Moscow could be preparing for a crackdown and perhaps even the use of force to stop the nationalist clamour in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

A central committee statement, which took 18 minutes to read on the Saturday evening news, denounced a rising tide of anti-Soviet feeling in the Baltics and said "destructive forces" there were seeking to break up the Soviet Union.

Vitautas Landsbergis, who heads the Lithuanian movement Sajudis, said the statement appeared aimed at making the situation in the Baltics appear more tense than it really was.

"Maybe they feel they must do people in Russia so they will be prepared to powers in Moscow use force to introduce troops or change the (Lithuanian) government," he said.

"They want to make at least part of the Russian believe ... the situation is dangerous here, although in reality everything is calm," Landsbergis said.

The Baltic calls for secession have brought counter-attacks in the central Soviet press, yesterday's Central Committee message continued: "If they managed to attain their goals, the consequences could be catastrophic for their peoples."

The Baltic calls for secession have brought counter-attacks in the central Soviet press, yesterday's Central Committee message continued: "If they managed

Rafsanjani wants a fair deal for his cabinet

NICOSIA, Aug 27. (AP): Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani opened a vote of confidence debate at Parliament today with a call for a fair and objective assessment of technocrats he has nominated for a new cabinet, drawing sharp criticism from hardliners.

Rafsanjani, Tehran Radio said, defended in an hour-long speech his decision to dump heavyweight hardline opponents, like outgoing Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, and his Interior Minister, Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

The debate at the 270-seat Majlis, or Parliament, was expected to last three days, ending Tuesday with a secret ballot to approve or veto each of Rafsanjani's candidates.

Twenty deputies are lined up to speak for or against Rafsanjani's 22 nominees, who included nine newcomers, mainly young, educated intellectuals.

Nine others already are serving in the outgoing cabinet, and the rest had served in

previous governments after the Islamic Revolution seized power in Iran in 1979, ending 2,500 years of monarchy.

The leading English-language Tehran Times newspaper, which backs Rafsanjani, said in an editorial today: "It is almost certain that the 22-member cabinet proposed by Mr Rafsanjani will receive a vote of confidence from the Majlis."

As leader of the so-called pragmatists, Rafsanjani is seeking to restore ties with the West

to ensure a flow of foreign technology and financing badly needed to rebuild the country's economy, shattered by the eight-year war with Iraq.

The hardliners, led by Mohtashemi, favour state-controlled economy and believe that by confronting the West, the revolution feeds Islamic fervour and remains loyal to the policy of its founder, Ayatollah Khomeini, who died on June 3.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia,

quoted Rafsanjani as saying he looked forward to "a fair, non-aligned assessment" of the proposed cabinet.

Earlier reports said 138 Parliament deputies had petitioned Rafsanjani asking him to keep Mohtashemi on.

Rafsanjani said: "Do not be carried away by the poisonous propaganda of the enemies ... Mr Mohtashemi is one of my closest friends and I have known him for very many years."

"But in the present circumstances, I believe

Mr (Nate) Nouri is best for this job," he said of his designated interior minister. Nouri served as interior minister 1981-1985, while Mohtashemi was in the diplomatic corps.

As ambassador to Syria in 1982, Mohtashemi had helped establish Hezbollah, or Party of God, among young Shiite Muslim militants in Lebanon. The group now is believed to be an umbrella for extremists holding most of the 16 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

Israel deports four, defying condemnation

Arafat may seek US visa

JERUSALEM, Aug 27. (Agencies): Israel, defying world condemnation, expelled to Lebanon today four West Bank Palestinians accused of inciting the uprising against Israeli occupation, the army said.

"They took part in the leadership and direction of the uprising," an army communiqué said.

A fifth Palestinian will be flown to France at his request, security sources said.

The expulsions raised to 61 the number of Palestinians deported by Israel since the revolt erupted in the occupied territories in December 1987.

The wife of the Bir Zeit University lecturer said he had received permission to go to France rather than Lebanon, first destination of every other Palestinian expelled during the 20-month uprising.

We were allowed to say goodbye to him in prison yesterday. He was not allowed to touch us so he kissed our two-year-old daughter Nadia through a wire grill," Amal Aruri told Reuters yesterday.

"Little Nadia asked him, 'Why are you here daddy?' He answered, 'Because I tried to help my people,'" she said.

Aruri has been held without trial for more than a year, accused of membership of the banned Palestine Communist Party and taking part in the outlawed "popular committees" steering the uprising.

Speaking at the family home in Al Birsh in the occupied West Bank, Amal Aruri said her husband had asked Israeli officials not to expel him to Lebanon as it had 56 other Palestinians banished since the uprising began in December 1987.

"The security situation is so bad there and he has no papers, no passport," she said.

Others facing expulsion, accused of fomenting unrest:

■ Mohammed Al Matoum, described as the leader of the Fatah wing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Jerusalem and Ramallah.

■ Odeh Ma'ali of the PLO's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

■ Bahl Shehshin, a West Bank nationalist who ran a bookstore.

■ Israel's educational television will start broadcasting programmes in Arabic for the country's Arab pupils this school year, the Education Ministry said today.

The US, steering itself for major diplomatic rifts with the Arab world and Israel over the possible visa application by Arafat, with one US official saying today: "We're damned if we do and damned if we do not" grant the application.

"It's going to be a very tough call," said one senior US administration official of the likely visa application.

The official referred to the outcome of quiet lobbying of the US by Israeli supporters against granting the visa and countering efforts by Arab spokesmen to permit Arafat to speak.

■ PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat "seriously considering" applying for a US visa to attend a session of the United Nations later this year, the New York Times reported today.

The newspaper, in an early-edition available last night, quoted a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation official as saying in an interview in Washington on Friday that Arafat may request a visa.

■ A number of Western European states are urging the American delegation to upgrade its delegation to the US-Palestinian dialogue, a press report said here today.

Daily "Al Ittihad" in Abu Dhabi quoted European sources in London as saying that the European states, including France, Italy, and Britain aim to keep the dialogue alive as the PLO expressed discontent over the fourth round of its talks with the American representatives in Tunis earlier this month.

PLO officials accused the United States of diverting the dialogue to sideline issues and avoiding discussions of pivotal political matters.

According to the sources, Washington's European allies fear that the dialogue was possibly heading to a crashing halt after the PLO instructed Palestinian leaders in the occupied areas to end their contacts with the Israeli government.



Amal Aruri talks to Israeli peace activists who visited her Saturday in Birch in the West Bank to condemn an Israeli order to expel her husband. (Reuter wirephoto)

Palestinians fight

Unacceptable

ABU DHABI, Aug 27. (Reuter): A leading Palestinian Muslim clergyman criticised in remarks published today the reported creation of a pro-Iranian Hezbollah group in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Sheikh Saaduddin Al Alami, head of Jerusalem's Supreme Islamic Council, told the semi-official UAE Al Ittihad newspaper that he did "not agree to the formation of any Islamic party in Palestine and does not accept the party's call at this phase of the Palestinian people in the territories."

A letter circulated in occupied Jerusalem on Friday announced the establishment of the Muslim Shitate group with faith and the gun against Jewish injustice and American arrogance is a human necessity."

Al Alami said the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories started and continues as a people's movement.

Al Ittihad quoted informed Palestinian sources saying that there was no Islamic figure behind the new party, only a "few youths who did not want to mention their names and are not expected to issue other statements."

Collaborators are fighting back against activists who have killed about 90 suspected "traitors" since the Palestinian uprising against Israel began 20 months ago.

Palestinian sources said

collaborators, provided with arms from Israel, appeared to be forming militia-like groups to defend themselves.

Killings of collaborators have risen sharply this year. Israel says most of the dead were victims of feuds or common criminals.

Troops shot dead Sami Hassan

Ajai, 17, during clashes in the village of Deir As-Sudan near Ramallah yesterday, Israel said.

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Easier judicial procedures plan

Hearings law amendment

THE assistant undersecretary for legal and planning affairs at the Ministry of Justice Abdul Raziz Al Dakheel has said that the new judicial year for 1989/90 will begin with the implementation of proposed changes aimed at easing off judicial procedures at the ministry.

He said that all judicial leaves would end as of next month and court sessions would be resumed

in plenary quorum, pointing out that certain provisions under the hearings law would be amended with a view to facilitating procedural measures involving petty law-suits.

He added that this would involve the application of two new legislative decisions seeking to expedite the processing of legal transactions and avoid delay of pending cases.

Dakheel said that the ministry within the same framework of work acceleration and simplification, introduced computer and other automation-oriented systems into the ministry's component departments with direct dealings with the public, such as the Department of Real Estate Registration and Documentation.

The step, he added, would be

particularly helpful at the Department of Specialists where answers to queries fed into the computer plus all required relevant data would be easily accessible without the strain of reference to relevant documents and files.

Hesaid that the Citizens Office was established by ministerial decision No. 43/1989 and looked into complaints brought by the public.

As of next month and court sessions would be resumed



A veiled saleswoman at Souq Wajif

Kuwait's traditional market Maintain Souq Wajif facilities: saleswomen

SOUQ WAJIF, traditional women's market, located in the heart of Kuwait is considered to be one of Kuwait's historical features and the "stomping-ground for middle income shopkeepers." Prior to the pre-oil era, this area conducted business in the time-honoured Arab tradition with saleswomen and customers known to each other on a personal basis. Goods were purchased after lengthy informal talk, accompanied with the age-old tradition of "haggling" which was then considered to be part and parcel of the friendly atmosphere then prevailing.

Modernisation, technological innovations and an "unthought of" increase in the population of Kuwait have brought in their wake a host of side effects which have been the curse of commercialism.

Saleswomen at Souq Wajif have been incessantly complaining of the Souq's deteriorating conditions and cited these as: noisy, ghastly, practical non-existence of maintenance, heat emanating from airconditioners mounted on shop walls, lack of toilet facilities and decrepit sewage services. The latter has

come in for severe criticism as the saleswomen state that these services are so bad that they sink in water along with their goods whenever there is even the slightest rainfall.

To add to their woes, they said, the sewers overflow permeating the surroundings with a foul odour. These factors all contribute to shoppers staying away from the area and this in return results in heavy losses to the saleswomen, they added.

They called upon officials to take these complaints and undertake a renovation programme so that they can be assured of continuity in their trade and earn an honest living.

In a supportive stand, shopkeepers called on official authorities to provide Souq Wajif with air-conditioning and also further called for providing saleswomen adequate cover from the elements. They added that several of these saleswomen are old and continue to sell their wares as they are the sole breadwinners for their families. Besides these old women, there are a lot of widows and divorcees who also bring their children along as there is no one to watch

them at home.

Um Hesham, a saleswoman said that the market is very small and the size of the stalls allocated are totally inadequate to display their goods. She said that during several periods of the year, the market is faced with a large drop in sales which compels them to sell at cost price.

She added that they are continually exposed to the harsh weather conditions of Kuwait.

During the summer months, they are exposed to high humidity and soaring temperatures due to the lack of shelter and in the rains they are completely drenched.

To add to their woes, they said that the exhaust of airconditioners from adjoining shops adds to their plight during the summer season and during the winter, the exhaust from heating equipment makes them still uncomfortable and unhealthy.

Um Ahmad indicated that

Souq Wajif should be better

cared for as it is one of Kuwait's

oldest features and pointed out

that a serious problem is the lack

of adequate lighting where most

saleswomen have to depend on

lights of neighbouring shops during the night.

2,450 traffic violations in July

KUWAIT, Aug. 27. (KUNA): According to a statistical release by the Computer Centre at the Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs the total number of cases entertained by the traffic courts over the month of July was 2,450 and that amount of fines collected on traffic charges was KD45,575.

The release said that of total number of cases 1,138 were examined by the Court of Hawally, 686 by the Court of

Kuwait City, 326 by the Court of Jahra and 300 by the Court of Ahmadi while the total number of cases settled over the same period was 2,286.

The release added that 1,173 cases were examined at normal procedural tempo, but 1113 were others were examined in an accelerated procedure, while 951 involved collision accidents, and 1,335 involved violation tickets.

The release pointed out that

the sentences issued involved the revocation of 84 driving licences and 50 jail terms, while the death toll was 9, of which 2 each took place in Kuwait City and Hawally, one in Jahra and four in Ahmadi.

Of all the traffic 4,555 cases examined during June 1986 were looked into by the Court in Hawally, 1,692 by the Court in Kuwaiti City, while the Jahra court examined 643 cases and Ahmadi Court 434 cases.

He added that the committee sponsored the renovation of 10 orphanages, and 500 mosques, while there was a special medical centre for children under construction.

As to the committee's activities in the Sudan, he said that the committee had purchased 2,745 tons of corn for the price of KD85,275 for distribution among the needy of the flood-inland areas, while a contract had been signed for the construction of 33 schools at a total cost of KD393,000.

The committee also funded the renovation of 41 existing schools in that country, finished the construction of the eighth clinic, bringing the total number of clinics built so far to 15 while 15 others remained under construction, at the cost of KD2,500 to 5,000 each, Ojail said.

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Amir's Cairo visit to strengthen ties

Co-operation agreements to be signed

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): Kuwaiti State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed today praised the existing strong ties between Kuwait and Egypt in all fields.

Al Rashed told reporters that tomorrow's visit to Egypt by HH the Amir will renew these ties, and would push them forward to mutual benefit in the interest of the Arab nation.

He pointed out that during the visit, Kuwait and Egypt will be signing executive programmes for co-operation in the spheres of trade, education, culture, scientific research and labour.

As for the situation in Lebanon, Al Rashed said Kuwait still urges all Lebanese parties to help put an end to the bloodletting and consolidate the nation's stability.

The senior official said Kuwait wishes for the Tripartite Arab Committee on Lebanon to resume its mediation with the aim of reaching an urgent solution acceptable to all parties.

"We seek an Arab solution to the Lebanese crisis," Rashed went on.

But he added that international backing of Arab mediation is essential to achieve a settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

Culture

HH the Amir's visit would among other things, further boost Kuwaiti-Egyptian cultural ties which are deep-rooted in history.

A report by KUNA's information and research department on the occasion of the visit, highlighted the historical bonds in cultural and educational fields existing between Kuwait and Egypt.

It cited the current Kuwaiti cultural and artistic festivals



HH the Amir

being held in Cairo as yet another indication of the two countries' determination to give new momentum to these links which dated back to 1939, when the first batch of Kuwaiti students set foot in the Egyptian capital.

The report reviewed the various historical stages of the cultural relations between Kuwait and Egypt and pointed out that the first Egyptian educational mission arrived in Kuwait as early as 1942 to become the second ever Arab taskgroup to the Gulf nation, after the Palestinian mission sent by Sheikh Amin Al Husseini in 1936.

The second group of Kuwaiti students was sent to Cairo in the early '40s and since then, the number was continuously increased. In 1946, the students, published their own magazine "Al-Bi'a" or "the mission".

The magazine portrayed the extensive cultural activities of Kuwaiti students in Egypt's educational institutes and in 1958 the students formed a theatrical troupe to display their artistic activities.

Speciality centres planned

Test-tube births now routine

By Mahmoud Mursi

THE director of Sabah General Centre for Medical Specialities, Dr. M. M. Mursi, said that operations related to test-tube babies has become routine for doctors in Kuwait.

He added that efforts of surgeons in Kuwait to follow-up and study the case of the Siamese Twins born in Kuwait at the end of 1987 at Adam Hospital have become an international reference for medical specialists and researchers around the world. The Siamese twins were Egyptian and they were joined at the chest having one heart and one spleen. They lived at the intensive care unit of Ibn Sina Hospital for 13 days before they died. The Public Health Ministry made extensive contacts with speciality hospitals in the advanced countries according to instructions of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in order to save their lives.

Meanwhile, Bader said that Babtain Centre for Plastic Surgeries and Burns will be opened during

the celebrations of the coming National Day (February 1990) and final touches are being given to the building.

The number of medical cadres and technicians who will work at the centre have also been increased, the official said and added that the ministry is now importing the medical equipment of the centre from different suppliers which cost about KD600,000.

The centre will offer precise specialisations in plastic surgery. The centre (Sabah Centre) is now putting the final touches to carry out liver transplants at the Organs Transplant Centre. Most of the medical and administrative cadres required for these surgeries have been prepared and such surgeries will begin as of the new year. He added that Hussein Makki Al Jumaa Centre for fighting cancer will start a new surgery for marrow transplant which he described as essential to treat blood cancer (leukemia) and the Thalassemia. Al Razi Orthopaedic Hospital will specialise as a training centre for new orthopaedic specialisations shortly, he added.

Bahrain Digest

Work-related accidents on the rise in Bahrain

In recent times there has been an increase in the number of occupational or industrial accidents in Bahrain involving mainly workers in the construction sector. The number of casualties, including fatalities, have been a subject of serious concern to both authorities and workers alike. Industrial employers in the island like everywhere else in the Gulf have to follow a stringent set of general safety precautions for their employees at all times, particularly when it concerns potentially dangerous tasks. Adequate equipment, protective uniform and other measures must be provided to the labourers concerned. Employers who fail to comply with the safety regulations for their workers are subject to face serious consequences in the form of heavy fines and in extreme cases suspension of the operation or closure.

Neglect

Because of several accidents in a number of construction projects in the past few months the authorities have frequently appealed to industrial companies to increase adequate safety measures at work for their workers and warned of stiff penalties if they failed to comply with rules. In spite of this official call, it seems some employers turn a blind eye to the potentially dangerous jobs which they expect their employees to carry out. It appears that comprehensive safety measures are neglected by some parties who either do not foresee that a particular job could severely injure a person or even jeopardise his life or they are only concerned with reducing costs by not procuring the proper protective equipment for the job at hand.

However, it must be admitted that large industrial giants generally follow satisfactory protective measures and industrial accidents in such complexes are a rare occurrence. In some aspects workers are also responsible for performing their duties within the safety rules.

Last week an Indian construction worker fell to his death after slipping from a water-tank while working on a project in Sitra. It was officially reported that this death was an accident, while the employers were unavailable for comment. A few months back another Indian labourer died when the roof of the sewage plant where he was working caved in. Two fellow workers survived the accident, however. And yet another worker fell to his death last year, this time working on a new multi-storeyed building when the supporting structure collapsed suddenly.

Hazards

While it is deemed reasonable to assume and even accept that occupational hazard exists in certain construction related projects, the employers must do their part to ensure that the risk of such accidents at work is considerably reduced by providing the necessary protective measures at all costs.

30pc ENT infections caused by allergies

(Continued from Page 1)

EAR, nose and throat specialist at Sabah Hospital, Dr. Ismael Mohammed Al Foudari stated that 30 percent of ENT problems are due to allergies.

In a special interview with a local daily Foudari said that he was in favour of surgically removing tonsils if swellings occurred five times in a span of one year. He added that tonsillectomies as a result of swelling lead to breathing difficulties.

The specialist said that heavy smoking over an extended period of time eventually leads to a large extent in a diminished level of the sense of smell and will cause chronic inflammations which may lead to cancer.

Ear cleaning

Foudari warned against using match sticks and keys to clean ears. He indicated that using these tools lead to acute swellings pointing out that cleaning ears is the job of specialists only.

He commented that hoarseness may be caused by growth in the vocal cords or by screaming most of the time.

Snoring

Snoring while sleeping is mostly caused by having an abnormal growth behind nose area or by bad positioning while asleep.

He rejected that appointments given to patients are spread over long periods of time and that they are within the time-frame compared to other countries.

All types of nose, throat and ear-diseases do exist in Kuwait, but allergic diseases take on added dimensions especially during summer and spring seasons. Such allergies may appear because of dust storms, Foudari said.

Kuwait-Egypt investment decree endorsed

Cabinet discusses ports draft law

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): The Cabinet, chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah, today held an ordinary session during which several issues were discussed.

State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Azz Al Rashed stated that the Cabinet discussed the messages exchanged between HH the Amir and Libya leader Moammar Khaddaf

dealt with topics listed on the agenda of the forthcoming non-aligned summit, to be held in Belgrade on September 3.

The ministers were also briefed on the messages sent by HH the Amir to Presidents of Turkey and Bulgaria respectively.

The state minister said that Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad briefed the Cabinet on results of the 24th session of the Arab Information Ministers' Conference, which concluded

the latter's recent visit to the country.

Rashed said that the ministers were briefed on the message HH the Amir received from President of Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam on bilateral relations.

The state minister said that Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad briefed the Cabinet on results of the 24th session of the Arab Information Ministers' Conference, which concluded

deliberations in Tunis last week.

The Cabinet, Rashed said, reviewed and endorsed a decree submitted by the legislative committee on an agreement that encourages and protects investments between Kuwait and Egypt, signed in Cairo last May.

The minister discussed a draft law on increasing the capital of the Ports Public Authority.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Somali minister

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): Somalia's Defence Minister Hussein Sheikh Abdul Rahman arrived here tonight for a four days official visit to Kuwait.

The Somali minister will convey a message to HH the Amir from President Mohammed Siad Barre.

He said upon his departure from Mogadishu airport that he will hold talks with Kuwaiti officials on means of enhancing co-operation between the two countries.

Education meet

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): Higher Education Minister Dr. Ali Al-Shamali leaves here tomorrow for Damascus to attend the 4th conference of the Arab Higher Education and Scientific Research Ministers from the period Aug 28 to 31.

Shamali will be accompanied by delegation, comprising director general of the Public and Training Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Mhaisan, Director General of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research Dr. Ahmad Al Jassar and Dean of the College of Education at Kuwait University Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Ahmad.

Interior order

ACTING Interior Ministry assistant undersecretary for police affairs Brigadier Mohammad Qabandi has issued a decision banning police officers and ministry personnel operating inside the different administrative departments and divisions from toting arms or related ammunitions.

The decision excluded police personnel and officers operating at police stations, vital national installations security guards, coastguards and officers assigned to special missions.

Official decree

KUWAIT, Aug 27. (KUNA): The official gazette "Kuwait Alyoum" published in its latest issue a decree appointing Mohammed Ibrahim Al Najran Ambassador Extra-ordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Kuwait to Bangladesh.

Bangladesh envoy

THE Ambassador of Bangladesh, K.M. Shehabuddin, yesterday met Abdul Aziz Al Khodar, the Director of Asia and Africa Department, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They discussed matters of mutual interest to further strengthen relations between Bangladesh and Kuwait.

Maintenance contract signed

Interior Minister and Acting Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Sheikh Salem Sabah Al Salem signed a contract yesterday for the repair and maintenance of 110 road rollers for Kuwait Municipality with Kuwait Public Transportation Company. The annual cost of the contract is about KD1.5 million. The contract will be valid for three years.

Renovation of old buildings vital to overall image: Duaij

Landlords ask for more time

THE restoration and renovation of buildings law issued by Kuwait Municipality recently is still raising many complaints among landlords and real estate owners. A number of landlords have readily accepted the law and already started renovating their buildings while another section of real estate owners are still unhappy with the new law due to timing for implementation which indicate as being inadequate.

A number of landlords stated that due to the country's economical conditions and the stagnation in the real estate market affected by the "Manakh crisis," they cannot conduct any restorations at the present time and requested an extension.

Renovation

A local daily conducted an opinion poll of a number of landlords and real estate owners to obtain their views about the new municipality law. The survey indicated several different reactions towards the new law, some were in favour while others were against. A third party of landlords were evasive and indicated a sense of indifference.

Head of the Buildings Renovations and Restorations Section at Kuwait Municipality, Engineer Osama Al Duaij indicated that reactions to the new decision were positive and included all levels of citizens, landlords and real estate owners. He stated that the new municipality decision will resolve an important problem connected with the civilised

representation of the country.

A large number of landlords and real estate owners have already petitioned the section and showed positive reactions towards the decision. He added that a large percentage of landlords have already completed renovation and restoration of their buildings and other landlords are in the process of following.

Duaij anticipated that the number of renovated buildings will increase during the coming months since a large number of landlords are currently spending their holidays abroad. The period was extended until the end of September, Duaij said.

He considered that regular maintenance to buildings is a protective operation aimed at avoiding any future problems. The renovation of buildings should cover the constructional feature and other elements showing the external site of the buildings. He added that the Buildings Renovations and Restorations Section take over the duties of renovating the operation and following it up.

Duaij pointed out that violations of the new law will entail legal measures after issuing a citation which is then raised to the general prosecution and the case transferred to court. Violators are usually compelled to pay a specific fine indicated by the court and then are directed to renovate the building.

Duaij added that a warning notice is sent to landlords before taking such measures and they are given a maximum of one month period to comply with directives of the notice.

Sheep disease ...

(Continued from Page 1)

advertisements Australian meat, slaughtered in Kuwait, as 550 kilos

Most other meat shops followed suit, although consumers need to bargain to bring down the prices from 600 to 550 kilos. The government, a few years ago had fixed Australian meat prices at 750 kilos a kilo.

Another surprise was a drop in the price of the Arabian sheep meat. The prices have always remained KD1.25 a kilo and rarely dropped below KD1.200. As many consumers seemed to have decided not to buy Australian meat after the controversy, it was expected that the prices of the Arabian sheep meat would go up. But it appears consumers demand dropped for both types of meat. However, Turkish meat remained normal at around 750 kilos a kilo.

Well informed sources said yesterday that the authorities in the company are paying great attention to the Arabian sheep meat.

He commented that hoarseness may be caused by growth in the vocal cords or by screaming most of the time.

Ear cleaning

Foudari warned against using match sticks and keys to clean ears. He indicated that using these tools lead to acute swellings pointing out that cleaning ears is the job of specialists only.

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All types of nose, throat and ear-diseases do exist in Kuwait, but allergic diseases take on added dimensions especially during summer and spring seasons.

Such allergies may appear because of dust storms, Foudari said.

Smugglers arrested

JAHRA traffic police patrols have reportedly been able to arrest three men attempting to smuggle 36 cartons of whisky, following a two-hour chase.

A police officer suspected a vanetee travelling on the desert road so he drove towards it with the intention of having a look at the driver's ID-card. However the vanetee sped on and did not stop at police request.

The chase went for several kilometres, but when the car got stuck in a bed of sand, the police managed to get hold of the driver and two other men with him as they tried to escape on foot, and confiscated the load of liquor.

One merchant said that the sharp drop in meat prices forced his company to stop selling and restricted distribution to its outlets only. The KD15.500 price for Australian sheep remained unchanged for the past four months until last week at which time the local company announced the reduction.

This has led to a sharp drop in the Australian meat prices from KD15.500 to KD12 per kilogram.

The Saudi ship Tabuk arrived in Kuwait on Aug 10 carrying over 72,000 Australian sheep — estimated to cost about \$3 million. The price paid by the Kuwaiti company is much less than the normal \$38 per head.

In another development, the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources has instructed all importers of live Australian sheep to suspend any expected shipments on the grounds that these sheep might be infected with infectious diseases.

Meanwhile, commercial sources in the Kuwait sheep market expressed fears that the competition among the major local importers led to the import of Australian sheep rejected by

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A WISE man changes his mind, a fool never — Spanish proverb.

OPINION

Meaningful visit

HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed will be in Cairo today. Indeed it is a big and important occasion from which various conclusions can be drawn. It is the meeting of attitudes, policies and designed to arrange patriotic and national interests.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, will be accorded a huge popular reception that confirms the passionate status that our Amir enjoys with the Egyptian political leadership and with the Egyptian people, many of whom work in our country and thus establishes a circle of interests in Kuwait. We, on the other hand, are linked with a balanced cultural relations with the Egyptian people.

The meeting of attitudes, supported by the important place Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed occupies in Egypt, is in fact a new foundation for the Arab bilateral relations, which according to Kuwaiti and Egyptian leaderships, should be the example for what relations between Arab countries should be. For this reason, the visit of HH the Amir to Egypt is attracting wide attention from the various Arab circles. Most importantly, it has overcome the state of imbalance in the Arab relations that prevailed in the past. It has succeeded in establishing new type of relations, not emanating from political investments which are based upon passions.

The new Kuwait-Egypt relations go deeper to link the interests of the two brotherly peoples, thus providing it more strength to withstand future change of attitudes and problems.

The welcome he receives today in Egypt is an indication of the Egyptian thorough understanding of his personality, policies and his calculations in development and construction of countries. In addition, it is an indication that Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed's way of ruling and his dealing with the Arab and international issues, is attracting deep appreciation and high esteem from the Egyptian leadership. He is a man of principles and not a professional politician who has no heart. It is his principles that guide his policies and not the contrary. These principles also include the views on what the Arab relations should be and what realistic methods should be applied for principles, not to remain words or simply good intentions without implementation.

By his frankness, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed has succeeded in making this way of dealing very understood, even though this frankness is sometimes painful. The man of principles cannot deal except with reality. With this high value that the personality of Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed enjoys, he enters Cairo after a long absence. He enters with his principles and ideas to what the relations should be with Egypt and to what should be the practical outcome of his visit.

The man, guided by his special way of ruling and dealing and with his understanding, does not speak except practically. His thoughts are well understood. He believes in a balanced world between the big and small. He believes in an integrated and co-operating world. He applies this belief into working initiatives. He launched one of them in the United Nations by proposing a solution to the world difficult debts. He also believes in Arab bilateral relations based upon integration, linking interests, balanced economic performance, feasible investments and reasonable and guaranteed employments.

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed is well aware of what great abilities Egypt has which can be invested in a perfect way in order to achieve economic integration. This only can save us all from the backwardness and from the restriction of the Third World that is suffering from debts and unable to meet its needs.

The Amir is aware that Egypt is important to him as it is important to the regional development. He also knows that going to Egypt cannot be fruitful if it is made by individual adventures and personal attempts. So there is no alternative, but to undertake organisation at the highest level in relations to investments which are run by states. This alone will determine the channels of investment and its fields and will positively ensure that objectives set are successfully achieved.

The Egypt that receives Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed today by its political leadership and its masses understands all of the steps that Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed is planning for Egypt. It also expresses true feelings and understanding that it is receiving a leader of a state that is considered one of the main keys of the Arab Gulf area ideally suited for investment opportunities.

We shall not hasten at arriving at decisions which is the way the Amir is thinking, because the visit will show the situation and give us a full result in detail for the horizons of the Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations that will cover the last decade of this century.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

TODAY IN HISTORY

1532 — Suleiman I, Sultan of Turkey, ravages Carinthia and Croatia.
 1574 — Treaty of Bristol settles commercial disputes between English and Spanish merchants.
 1619 — Gabor Bethlen of Transylvania invades Hungary.
 1640 — Scots defeat British force at Newburn-on-Tyne.
 1793 — British force under Admiral Alexander Hood occupies Toulon, France.
 1833 — British Parliament bans slavery throughout British empire.
 1848 — Boers are defeated at Boomplaats by British forces and retire across Vaal river, thus insuring Orange river sovereignty.
 1849 — Venice, Italy, submits to Austria after long siege.
 1879 — British troops capture Cetwyo in Zulu war with Africa.
 1910 — Montenegro is proclaimed independent kingdom under Nicholas I.
 1928 — All-party congress at Lucknow, India, votes for dominion status within British empire.
 1943 — Japanese resistance ends on island of New Georgia in the Solomons during World War II.
 1973 — Earthquake hits area southwest of Mexico City, killing 500 people and injuring 1,000 others.
 1975 — France flies troops and police to its Mediterranean island of Corsica to quell demonstrations for autonomy.
 1986 — Bolivian government imposes nationwide state of siege in response to march to La Paz by about 7,000 miners opposed to closing of mines.
 1987 — Leftist rebels in El Salvador propose five-day ceasefire in September in their almost 3-year-old war against US-supported government.
 1988 — Italian Air Force jet collides in air with two other jets, plunges into a crowd of spectators at air show in Ramstein, West Germany, killing at least 45 people and injuring about 500.

Thousands cross European borders

See no evil, hear no evil

HUNDREDS of thousands of people are crossing European borders in the largest such migrations in years, leaving behind loved ones and possessions. Some leave voluntarily, seeking a better life. Others are being forced out.

Ethnic Turks have fled in record numbers from harassment in Bulgaria. East Germans are flooding into West Germany. Moscow is granting many Soviet Jews their long-time wish to emigrate.

About 400,000 ethnic Germans from the Soviet Union and five other Eastern European countries are expected in West Germany this year. That marks an emotional homecoming for the descendants of settlers who also had sought a better life by heading eastward decades or even centuries ago.

"I myself left the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) in 1952," West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher says of the new arrivals from that Communist nation. "I know what's driving these people on, and I know that no one makes a snap decision to flee."

The number of East Germans reaching West Germany this year is expected to hit 100,000, the highest number since 207,000 people arrived in 1961, when the Berlin Wall was built to halt the flow.

So far in 1989, most of the East Germans — leaving behind a growing sense of hopelessness in their bleak, pollution-ridden country — are emigrating legally.

But for those leaving without permission, the escapes can range from a death-defying swim across a Berlin river to a sprint across the border between Hungary and Austria.

A group of 108 East Germans who had taken refuge in the West German embassy in Budapest were allowed Thursday to leave for West Germany, but the Hungarian news agency MTI said the case was an exception that cannot serve as a precedent.

Budapest says up to 5,000 East Germans have reportedly reached the West via Hungary, almost all of them illegally, since the exodus began in the second half of July. Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn said Thursday 150,000 to 200,000 East Germans are in his country now.

Young

Many of the refugees are young workers who will be sorely missed back in East Germany, a country of 16.6 million people.

West Germany is the promised land for another current wave of European migrants — ethnic Germans whose ancestors settled in what is now the Soviet Union and other parts of Eastern Europe generations ago.

"Last year, we had 200,000, and this year we are counting on 400,000," said Ina Ruehl, an expert with the West German Red Cross in Bonn.

By way of comparison, up until 1987 only about 600 ethnic Germans were allowed to emigrate from their homes in the harsh climates of Siberia and Soviet Central Asia.

Emigration is regarded by many as the only possibility to remain Germans, to preserve their traditions, language and culture," the official Soviet news agency Tass said Aug. 17 in summing up the views of a new organization representing the minority's interests.

Last Tuesday, the head of the Soviet visa agency Ovir said that in a flood triggered by eased travel restrictions, 200,000 Soviets are expected to emigrate in 1989. Rudolf Kuznetsov said about 107,000 already have received permission to leave this year. Most of the emigrants go to the United States and West Germany.

The ethnic Turks who had been streaming out of



An ethnic Turk crossing the Bulgarian border at Kapitule waits in front of what he brought from Bulgaria as his grandchild sits among the luggages and sacks piled over each other.

Bulgaria are leaving behind official harassment bordering on outright persecution.

Authorities in Sofia have embarked on a brutal assimilation campaign, forcing the ethnic Turks to adopt Slavic names. The ethnic Turks say they have been fined and beaten for speaking Turkish in public and practicing Islamic rites.

The number leaving had climbed to more than 300,000 in three months, before Ankara started clamping down last Tuesday on refugees fleeing by motor vehicle, in hopes of forcing concessions from Bulgaria's Communist authorities.

Turkey is seeking to control the pace of the exodus and ensure immigrants are compensated for property left behind and accumulated pension benefits. New arrivals now are required to have visas from Turkish consulates.

Turkish authorities previously had stopped the daily train carrying the ethnic Turks, because of what foreign ministry spokesman Murat Sungar called "disorderly and inhuman treatment" by the Bulgarians.

About 30,000 Romanians, most of them ethnic Hungarians, have fled to Hungary over the past two years. The ethnic Hungarians also have claimed violations of their rights to use their language and maintain their cultural traditions.

Hungary's willingness to take in the refugees and Budapest's championing of the Romanian ethnic Hungarian minority's rights have worsened the already strained relations between the two Warsaw Pact allies.

The Soviet Union has opened up the exit door for one of its best-known minorities — the estimated 1.8 million to 3 million Jews. Since 1971, about 300,000 Soviet Jews have emigrated.

Thousands of them have made their way to Italy by way of Vienna, hoping to reach the United States. But while the United States used to welcome the Soviet Jews with open arms, that policy was tightened last October, much to the dismay of the hopeful emigres.

Roberta Elliott, director of public affairs for the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) in New York, says 30,711 Soviet Jews emigrated between October 1988 and the end of July.

She said HIAS figures show that during the same period, 3,838 Soviet Jews went to Israel, 19,366 to the United States and 282 to Australia. As of the end of July, 12,600 Soviet Jews were still waiting in Italy, she said.

About 5,000 of them live and wait near Rome in the small seaside town of Ladispoli, where an old movie theatre has been turned into a synagogue and many of the shops have signs in Russia.

Art Buchwald

Simulated stimulation

TV news is getting more excited than ever. The reason is that there has been a breakthrough. It is now possible to simulate a news story that is as good or even better than the real thing.

The person who invented the SNS (simulated news story) is Arch McGarry, an independent special effects TV producer who is now one of the most sought-after media television journalists.

"Where did you get the idea to simulate the news?" I asked.

"I was watching an oil spill off California on the evening news. The film was so grainy that you had no idea what was going on. The thought occurred to me that I could simulate a better oil spill than that. So I went to my bathtub and with the help of my kids re-enacted the spill and all the damage that followed. When I showed it to the producer at the evening news show, he was flabbergasted. Now whenever there is an oil spill in the world they use my film instead of the real thing."

"That's great. What other news stories have you simulated?"

"We do a lot of murders. In the past TV news reporters were restricted in showing a crime of passion because their cameras usually got there too late to tape it live. They came to me with the problem, and with models I can simulate any crime 20 minutes before air time."

"Do some people think they're seeing the real thing?"

"Most people believe they are. The advantage of simulation is that you can see a crime from start to finish so you can get emotionally involved."

"Do you simulate political stories in Washington?"

"Yes, we do. The other day one of the networks heard that President Bush had playfully dunked Vice-President Quayle's head underwater half dozen times in the Jacuzzi at Camp David. They had no film of it so they asked us if we would re-enact the dunking. We found two look-alikes and did the whole story. No one even knew it wasn't real."

"How about sports? Do you simulate football or basketball events?"

"Not yet, but we're working on it. When it comes to faking it we want to stick with hard news, such as train wrecks or Poland."

"You've simulated Poland?"

"We've simulated what has been going on in Poland. We have a fellow who looks more like Wales than Wales, and we have the best Jaruzelski in the re-enactment business. When we stage a fight between them, it's 10 times better than what happened in Warsaw."

"Do you ever talk about Bloch, the alleged spy?"

"I'm very proud to have been the first one to simulate the Bloch spy caper. To do it right I built the entire city of Vienna in our studios in Brooklyn. Not one news organization has ever done so much simulation on a story."

"I couldn't dispute him. When I saw it I felt I was sitting in the FBI's state at the Secher Hotel. 'Did you base it on the swapping of the briefcase on the real thing?'"

"Everything we simulate has to have authenticity or the networks couldn't call it news." — 1989 Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Quote me

"Love one another as God loves each one of us. Remember: The work of love is the work of peace." — Mother Teresa said in 79th birthday message.

"We have constructive proposals for the peaceful settlement of the Afghan conflict, for dialogue and negotiations and the participation of all sides involved." — Afghanistan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said as he leaves for Belgrade to attend a non-aligned summit next week.

"We have no conditions to the revival of the committee's efforts but it should implement the Arab summit's resolutions on Lebanon in full. The dead end which the committee has reached has nothing to do with Syria's position and we are confident that there was lots of time left for it not to reach that result." — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara said in a news conference in Amman.

"We are keeping our fingers crossed as we know lives are involved, but the chances are grim," — PIA spokesman said after the third day's search for the missing Pakistani airliner.

"I ask you who is a better champion: chess champion or boxing champion?" he replied. "They are both champions but in different classes." — Lech Walesa was asked during an interview with Brazilian television who was more important, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev or the Pope.

"It's one way to force everybody's hand. He is been the Kerner-Rouge's lifeboat for years." — One Western diplomat said about Prime Minister Shamouti.

"My visit to Jordan comes within the framework of consultations on various issues affecting the situation in the Middle East and ways of achieving regional peace. I will discuss the situation in Lebanon and what damage it constitutes really. Practical steps should be taken to condense political efforts aimed at solving the Lebanon's problems through national agreement." — Soviet envoy Gennady Tarasov said as he arrived in Jordan from Beijing for talks on ways to end the Lebanon crisis.

"In conditions like those we had today, there is always a danger of pressing too hard. There is a tendency to want to press on faster than is prudent. So, the key thing was to suppress natural instincts slightly and keep inside the limits. I always found myself wanting to push on harder and harder, but had to draw back. But I cannot complain about the weather as I always seem to have good results in these conditions." — Artyom Seima said after he won the Belgian Grand Prix.

"I knew I had to make four birdies on the homeward half to catch him and make sure he did not go past me in the table. It's my happiest day of the year." — Jose-Maria Canizares of Spain said after sharing of fifth position in the German Open.

"I spoke to Sandy in America by telephone last night. It was his personal request that he should not be included in the team. I did my best to dissuade him and told him he had the support of all the players. It was tough, tough decision for Sandy to make and I admire him for the guts and bravery it took to make it. Sandy feels incapable of sustaining the pressure of playing Ryder Cup gold and I can't ask him to do something he does not want to do." — European Ryder Cup captain Tony Jacklin said.

"It's not who you play, it's how you play. I've been saying for years that I'm No. 1 in the 20-and-older. I just need to kidnap (top-ranked) Steffi Graf and then I'll be No. 1 by default," said Navratilova, 32, who's ranked No. 2 in the world.

Dispute over Dead Sea scrolls AIDS child finds love

42 years on, texts still not available to many scholars

By Galina Vromen

FORTY-TWO years after they were discovered in Judean desert caves, the Dead Sea scrolls are at the centre of a bristling academic dispute.

In one camp sits a select group of scholars entrusted by Jordan in the 1950s to publish the 2,000-year-old texts which contain invaluable information about the history of Judaism and the origins of Christianity.

Rival colleagues accuse them of unreasonable delays in getting the material out and denying others access to the vital texts housed in East Jerusalem's Rockefeller museum.

At a Dead Sea Scroll conference from August 20 to 23 at Groningen University, North Netherlands, Biblical scholars described their

latest research dryly during official sessions but passionately discussed the feud during lecture breaks.

"People are building scholastic empires," said Robert Eisenman of California University at Long Beach who has led the challenge to what he sees as barriers to access for himself and others.

Archaeology

"These people are spoiling my career because the stuff I want to work on I can't see," said fellow "rebel" Philip Davies of Sheffield University in England. "How long should we have to wait to see them publish the material?"

Their complaints have been echoed by the

145,000-circulation Biblical Archaeology Review whose editor Hershel Shanks earlier this summer criticised the scrolls' editors.

The complaints are rejected by the 20-odd scholars at work on the Qumran editorial project, named after the caves where the 11 scrolls and hundreds of fragmented manuscripts were found.

They point out that some seven annotated volumes of photographic plates — about a third of the texts — have been released since the project began.

"People expect too much," said one editor, Emile Puech from the French Ecole Biblique, a Catholic-affiliated institution in Jerusalem which received the original mandate from Jordan to set up the scroll editorial team.

The first volumes were of fairly complete

scrolls. But now it is a matter of putting together photos of thousands of remaining fragments. It's not a simple matter to figure out how to fit them together and it takes time," he said.

Editors add that they hold down regular teaching jobs and must work on the scrolls between semesters or during leave.

"No one is more impatient to get the stuff out than we are," said editor Eugene Ulrich of Notre Dame University in Indiana.

The controversy comes in part because the scrolls are considered one of the most important Biblical discoveries of the century.

The sections already published have brought insight into a sect of Jews known as Essenes who led an ascetic, communal lifestyle near Qumran from about 200 BC to 70 AD.

Abandoned at birth

AS the AIDS epidemic grows, so does the problem of who is to care for people with the disease. Ignorance and fear about AIDS can lead to people with AIDS being in danger of being ostracised. To meet this unprecedented problem, community groups are developing new skills to provide the necessary support.

Abandoned at birth in a New York hospital by her heroin-addicted mother, Aisha (not her real name) was a baby hardly anyone would want to adopt. She was sickly, underweight and irritable, displaying all the symptoms of congenital drug withdrawal. In addition, she carried her mother's antibodies to HIV and might go on to develop AIDS herself. Until a few years ago, she would probably have spent her days in a hospital or public institution.

Fortunately for Aisha, there was an alternative. In 1985, when the problem of abandoned HIV antibody-positive babies began to grow, social worker Phyllis Gurdin set up the Leake and Watts AIDS Foster Home Project, the first and largest such programme in New York State.

She and her colleagues turned

to a small but dedicated segment of the population — foster-parents. They not only accept the demands of caring for someone else's child but have to live with the uncertainty of not knowing whether the child will develop AIDS. If this happens, they must be able to provide constant medical care.

Aisha's foster-mother, Chelly Jackson, a black, self-employed single woman, does not fit the image of a "typical" foster-parent. Placement agencies have abandoned the notion of traditional nuclear families as the only appropriate setting for foster-parenting. The shortage of people willing to care for AIDS babies has forced them to become more flexible, while still maintaining stringent screening and psychological evaluation.

"We're finding that non-traditional people do better in this job, because what we're asking is non-traditional," says Gurdin. "We're dealing with unknowns. We don't know how long these children will live. We're looking for people who have had adversity in their lives and can deal with it. We're looking for minority people because many of the babies are black and Hispanic, and we like to place them as close to their own cultural background as we can."

The decision to foster AIDS babies is a big one, that might involve a complete change in lifestyle. It is also often accompanied by fear of ostracism by family and friends. "At first some of the people who used to come to my house suddenly did not," says Chelly. "But others come more often because it makes them feel good to be part of Aisha's life, to be aunts and uncles that any good family would provide. So they are a big part of the operation. I couldn't do this alone."

Foster-parents also receive financial support from the placement agency to cover basic needs, medical expenses and "extras" such as paid child care to allow a break from the daily routine. While the financial compensation is attractive, Gurdin emphasises that it is not what motivates foster-parents. "No amount of money would be worth what some of them have to go through," she says.

Training teens

■ PARIS: The classroom is the ideal place to talk about AIDS prevention, according to youthful activists of the Paris-based non-governmental organisation, Youth Organisation Against AIDS (AJCS).

At the invitation of teachers or students, AJCS sends trained teen volunteers to talk to groups of secondary school pupils encouraging the teacher to leave the room.

AJCS president Stephane Mantion believes that adults, either doctors or teachers, find it awkward to make presentations on sensitive issues like sexuality and drug use, and children often feel embarrassed and hesitate to speak openly.

But trained teen educators can break the ice. Instead of lecturing, these peer educators share the message of personal responsibility, and stress the need for self-esteem, which equals learning how to protect oneself from AIDS.

France, which has one of Europe's most serious AIDS epidemics, had done little targeted education for youth until the founding of AJCS in 1986, when members appealed for young volunteers on a French TV show for teens.

A core of 20 responded and immediately began conducting surveys to find out the attitudes and knowledge of French teens.

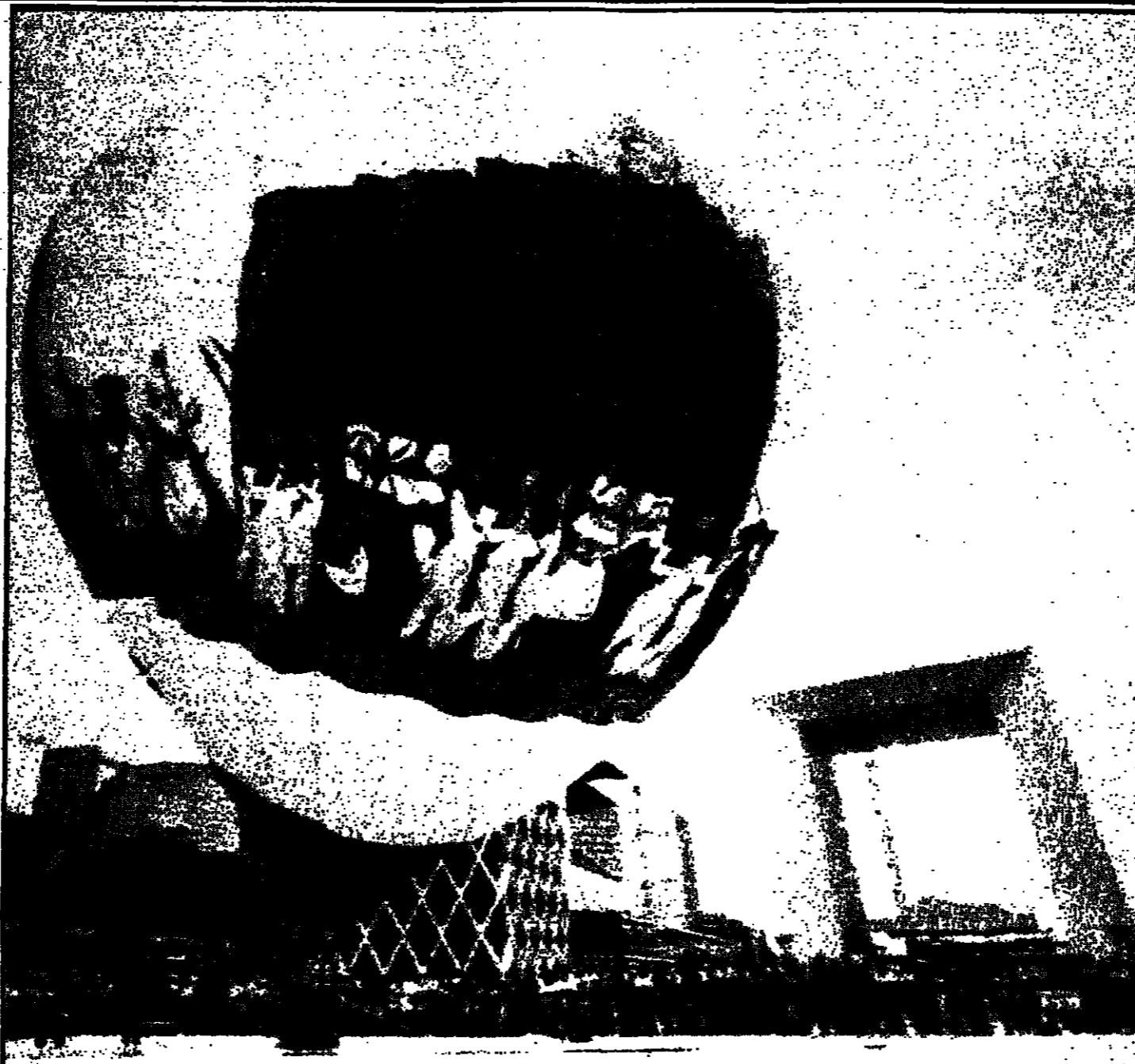
They discovered teens held many misconceptions. Some incorrectly believed that contraceptives like the birth control pill and the diaphragm could prevent transmission of HIV; or they believed that they could assess by appearance whether their partner was infected.

In preparation for the classroom, AJCS even did surveys in Paris chemist shops to find out how easy it was to locate and buy condoms so they could advise teenagers how to overcome difficulties.

AJCS is modelled on the US Los Angeles Adolescent Treatment and Education Alliance. Its founder, Wendy Arnold, stresses that parents and educators need to be involved in and accept an AIDS prevention project.

In one Parisian suburb, Arnold and her team had to make separate presentations to the mayor, school superintendent, nurses, teachers and parents before teen educators were permitted into classrooms, even though the project had the formal endorsement of the Ministry of Health and Education.

In order to make presentations in Catholic schools, AJCS had to assure parents that their primary aim was to give students the information that AIDS was preventable, and that sex and drug use would not be condoned.



Bastille blown up

A hot air balloon with a scene from the French Revolution is inflated near L'Arc de la Defense (right) on Aug 26. The hand-painted balloon shows the storming of the Bastille in 1789.

Old walls with big ears

Britain listens in on world

By Peter Millership

FROM an ageing mansion in the heart of England's Berkshire countryside gifted linguists have been picking up vital news bulletins on wars, coups and disasters for the past half century.

Listening intently through headphones and hunched over radio receivers and tape recorders, staff of the British Broadcasting Corporation's monitoring service trawl through 530 hours of foreign broadcasts a day on the alert for crucial news.

Marble fireplaces and ornate gilded ceilings, however, will soon be swapped for a new high-tech listening room with open-plan workspaces and banks of electronic equipment.

Winding through the passageways of the old building to the new listening room, an extension of the west wing, assistant editor for news Callum MacKinnon says: "Welcome to Starship Caversham."

After nearly 50 years government-funded Caversham Park is getting a facelift for its golden jubilee. A multi-million-pound modernisation will provide more receivers

and more staff.

A new newsroom — overlooking the estate's gardens which include a lake and a gazebo — is better equipped to handle an increasing avalanche of words plucked from the ether in 38 languages.

The glassy-paned Soviet information booth strained resources at Caversham which still uses manual wire hoists and pneumatic tubes to send stories around the grand old Georgian building.

"The system was beginning to creak," said Barry Whitehall, general manager of monitoring, explaining the modernisation which will also involve refurbishment of the mansion. "One's always slightly sorry to see elastic bands disengage."

But despite the changes, the basic job remains the same.

Monitors need to react swiftly and accurately to an unexpected news flash. There can be interference to the broadcast and double-checking can mean losing crucial seconds.

"In a very volatile situation, uprising or upheaval, monitoring really comes into its own," said Vladimir Rubinstein, a veteran of bands disengage.

BBC monitoring works alongside and shares information with a US monitoring body, the CIA-administered Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), which is twice its size.

Caversham covers Eastern and Western Europe, Africa, Iran, Afghanistan and parts of the Middle East. "They (FBIS) do the rest of the world. It's a good arrangement," said Whitehall.

In the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 Soviet leaders Nikita Khrushchev used Moscow to announce the dismantling of Soviet bases. Informed within minutes of the broadcast, President Kennedy answered: "I am replying immediately to your message ... although I have not yet received the official text..."

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Connors remembers Elvis love song

From Frank Durham in Los Angeles

EVERY note beautiful Hollywood composer Carol Connors writes turns to gold. But there is a poignant song of hers that no star has ever sung, no juke box played and no movie mogul has set eyes on.

Carol, award-winning writer for the music for *Rocky*, plays and sings it only when she is alone in her Beverly Hills home. And then she always weeps a little.

She wrote the song *You Loved My Night Away*, in memory of her first love, Elvis Presley. And she can't bear the world to hear the heartbreaking words and music, that could make a pop star's ransom if she allowed them to be published.

Carol, who has written songs for Tom Jones and Frank Sinatra, sat at her piano and gave me an emotional "premiere" of her goodbye to Elvis, who died years ago.



Elvis Presley on stage.

Connors remembers

Elvis love song

With the Californian sun slanting through the window, Carol sang softly: "Trough whispered words unspoken, Lost in dreams of yesterday. You came to me and You loved my night away."

Then she told me: "I cared about Elvis very much. I was 17-18 at the time and he was my very, very first boyfriend. I'm not going to elaborate on that. If you're a lady, you know what it means."

It was when Carol, now in her thirties, and Elvis were loving each other tender that she wrote her very first song. It was for him, and it was called *My Special Boy*.

Carol told me that her love story began after Elvis heard and fell in love with a song she had recorded called *To Know Him Is To Love Him*.

She recalled: "He said, 'I love the voice of the girl.' One of his friends brought me up to the house in Bel-Air where Elvis

was living and introduced us. After that, we dated for about ten months."

Crowds

"He was a gentleman. He didn't like crowds at all and he didn't like going out. We would spend our evenings watching television, talking and singing."

"Of course, he had a great voice, and Elvis just loved mine. I sang *To Know Him Is To Love Him*, with Elvis doing the back-up. Then we would sing some of his hits. There was a tune he'd done that I loved ..."

Carol's eyes were moist with tears as she sang the first few words of that song: "This is the story ..." Then she added: "I would do the harmony to his lead vocal."

Although Carol and the King of Rock made beautiful music together, she knew she was by no means his only girl.

The stunningly attractive composer, who has since dated stars such as David Janssen, *I Spy*'s Robert Culp and Lee Majors, said: "Elvis was in his twenties and had just come out of the Army. He had already met Priscilla, but wasn't married to her. She was in Germany at that time and Elvis was dating other ladies, including Ann Margaret. I'm still friends with one of them ..."

"I used to go to many of Elvis's opening nights at Las Vegas. I could see that he was aware of every single mood that was going on around him. Especially when he was on stage."

"And he knew every single note that was being played or sung by every person in his band. Elvis was phenomenal. The man had the most incredible ear."

The Carol described Elvis the man. The star cocooned by his own success. She said: "He was quiet. He did have a temper. I didn't see much of it myself, but I heard that there were certain nights when he lost it."

"Elvis was a good man, but night he was telling a joke. It was a miserable joke and I didn't laugh."

"Elvis asked me, 'Why aren't you laughing?' I said, 'Elvis, that was the worst joke I ever heard,' he replied, 'you know that and I know that. But they'll all laugh at anything I say and do anything I want!'

Then, as is the way in the ever-turbulent world of showbusiness, the young lovers drifted apart. Carol said: "Marriage? It just wasn't meant to be."

Heart

But there was always a place in her heart for her first love. And it broke when she heard that Elvis had died.

Carol told me: "I was up at the Beverly Hills Hotel when I heard the news.

"I was terribly stricken by it. I came



When Elvis died, Rocky award-winner Carol Connors (above) wrote a poignant farewell song (left) with which she can't bear to part.

home, sat down and wrote the last verse of *He Loved My Night Away*. It was a terribly difficult song to write and I couldn't finish it.

"I didn't want to be trite, I wanted to be honest about what I was trying to say. I did not seem to be able to find the beginning of the song, even though I had found the ending. I finished it some months later."

"I did show it to David Soul, who wanted to record it. Then I wondered whether to record it myself ... to start singing again. But, so far, I haven't been able to bring myself to let go of *He Loved My Night Away*. I have kept it to myself."

I don't normally talk about the song. I just love that title ... it follows on from my first one about Elvis, *My Special Boy*.

Although our romance ended, we kept in touch. When I became a success, Elvis sent me a special message, which I was very proud of. He knew how I had struggled to make it before things finally happened."

Awards

Now an entire wall of Carol's home is covered with awards and platinum and gold discs. She lives the life of a Hollywood star and rubs shoulders with the famous. Carol counts the likes of Diana Ross and Frank Sinatra among her personal friends.

She chuckled as she told me how she had first met Ole Blue Eyes. Carol said: "I was in Vegas working on a Disney film and was staying at Caesar's Palace. I was

sitting in the galleria when one of Frank's girls came up and delivered the classic, 'Hey, da boss wants to see ya.'

"I walked through the kitchen into Sinatra's dressing room. There was a party going on, and he was changing in the bathroom. When he came out, he walked directly up to me, took my hands in his and said, 'I love your music, some day I'm going to record a song of yours.'

"He looked me up and down and then said, 'For a composer, you're dynamite.' I turned eight shades of red and said, 'Mr. Sinatra, whom did you expect — George Gershwin?' From that minute, we became good friends.

"And, sure enough, Melissa Manchester — a leading singer and songwriter — and I wrote *I'll Be There* for him. It was all very exciting. I love Frank. He's my idol."

Welsh superstar Tom Jones also heard one of Carol's songs and fell in love with it. She told me: "He fancied *Just Tell Me You Love Me*, which I had written for a film, and he decided to record it. He's a really sexy-looking guy!"

Today Carol mixes with the rich and famous and the stars are proud to be seen with her. But, as she lay in the sun during a luxury break in Miami, her thoughts went back to her first, lost love. And to the song that said it all ... *He Loved My Night Away*.

"No," she told me huskily, "I haven't been able to bring myself to part with it."

Aborigines go home

Retracing painful steps to families

By Robert Woodward

"I just remember coming home and mum was at the door ... there was this white woman standing there and I can hear mum saying 'Can't you give me time to get the kids ready?'

"And she said 'no, they've got to go now, something like that. One minute we were coming home to the house and the next instant we were in the car and gone.'

"We were never ever told why we were taken."

Jean Carter was one of thousands of children taken from their homes under the all-enveloping powers of the Aboriginal Protection Board, which for 86 years forcibly separated aboriginal children from their mothers to turn them into white Australians.

Until 20 years ago, when the board was scrapped, government officials were still deciding if such action "was in the interests of the moral or physical welfare of the child."

The children were assimilated into Australia's white population. Many never saw their families again.

Others, like Carter, retained their black consciousness and up to 50 years later re-established contact with their families.

Thirteen of those who "came home" have recalled their struggles in a book "The Lost Children" published this month.

Policemen rounded up youngsters on aboriginal reserves, young mothers were persuaded to have their babies adopted within hours of birth and children were taken away with the promise they would be returned educated or trained.

Flimsy

The reasons given were often flimsy. "Why admission is sought — to take the child from association of aborigines as she is a fair-skinned child, 'read the entry on a form placing Joy Williams in a children's home.'

In New South Wales one in six aboriginal children born from 1900 to 1969 are estimated to have been removed from their parents.

Depending on their age, some were adopted by white families, others were placed as nameless or other types of servants. Most were put in children's homes.

"Every time I was in trouble I was being told that it was because I was aboriginal, bad, lazy," said Nancy de Vries. "The usual stereotyping was very obvious in those days because I think they firmly believed all those things."

In the 1920s, state and federal governments adopted a policy of assimilation for aborigines, especially those of mixed blood, based on the assumption a white way of life was desirable.

"They were turning me into a white person, they were taking my whole culture and my whole everything from me and making me what they wanted me to be as an adopted child," said Sherry Atkinson.

The aboriginal population fell to 70,000 in the 1930s from 300,000 at the time of the white settlement in 1788.

In the 1960s the assimilation policy came under increasing criticism and the right of aborigines to maintain their racial identity was acknowledged. Aborigines, who now make up one per cent of the 16 million population, estimate 100,000 people may be unaware of their black roots.

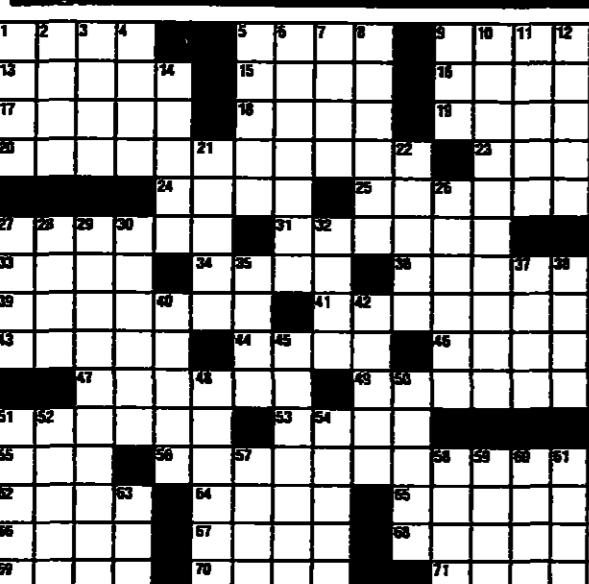
"The lost children" found it tough as young adults to assume black ways after years living in a white world.

Sharon Carpenter was not the only child who found fellow aborigines did not welcome her back with open arms.

"I think maybe it's because the koorie (aborigines) who have grown up in the cities and towns have had such a struggle, maybe they think 'On you've grown up white and had it all easy and now you want the glory of being black,' Carpenter said.

"I can understand that," she added. "But it has to be a two-way thing. It's easy when white people say you're not black ... but when black people say you're not, that hurts."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Near island
5 Arachnid's traps
9 ADC, for one
13 Move without power
15 Elide
16 Caen's neighbor
17 Mr. Gantry
18 Nothing more than
19 Caspian Sea country
20 Reproved
23 Abbr. on a wanted poster
24 Tie
25 Form of verse
27 Neighbor of Philadelphia
31 Followed
33 Athena epithet
34 Cipher system
36 Cotton worker
39 Dispatcher
41 Mounted
43 Famous sidekick
44 Italian wine city
46 Sir Gernot's wife
47 Testify
49 Small anchors
51 Ogle
53 Acted a little like Little
55 Hearing aid
56 Defended a client
62 One of seven
64 La Scala highlight
65 Dudley or Gary job
66 Do a hawk's
67 Oxford fellows
68 Without company
69 Side

70 Wise one
71 Change for a five
72 DOWN
1 Genus of trees
2 Painted titplate
3 Pack down
4 Exploiter
5 Certain voter
6 Corrected the text
7 Boston hero
8 Mans the tiller
9 "Do — say..."
10 Fence-sitters' position
11 Quench
12 Of sound quality
14 Shimecock, for one
21 Holiday pie
22 Thomas had this?
26 Approached
27 Broadway group

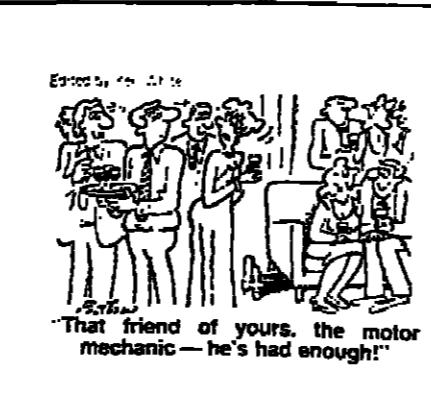
28 Palo —
29 Wandering
30 Fish of the perch family
32 Undulated
35 Mediterranean
37 Entertainer
38 N.L. team
40 Tippler
42 Golfing pro
45 Withering
48 Mountain nymphs
50 Plant disease
51 Sailor's vacation
52 Slackened
54 — porridge
57 Indian boat
58 — contendere
59 Jet receiver
60 Coastal eagle
61 Ruby and family
63 Hooiser humorist George

64 Testify
65 Small anchors
66 Do a hawk's
67 Oxford fellows
68 Without company
69 Side

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

NTH	PASTA	LANA
NORA	ACTOR	AMEN
IVAN	THUMBSDOWN	
PEDDLER	MOP STA	
SLEPT	TYRE	
ISLAM	SETAE	
OTIC	IVES	COBRA
KICKUP	ONESHEELS	
STEPP	INDAK	TEES
ODDER	ERICH	
NEED	PERKS	
SKY	DNA	SALMONS
HEADSTRONG	ADIT	
ANNO	ATREE	RETS
WOKED	LOBES	KUS

Edited by Ken White



"No, I'm not having any, I can't eat that garbage!"

الحمد لله رب العالمين

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦KJ6 ♦873 ♦AQ653 ♦K93

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?

A.—The choice is between a gross overbid, three diamonds, and a slight underbid, two spades. Since gross overbid leads to major disasters, we would opt for the conservative two spades in the hope of getting a chance to catch up later.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AQ1073 ♦AKJ ♦Q107 ♦K62

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Your hand values to 17 points, so you are worth a try for game. We would bid three diamonds, asking partner to evaluate his holding in that suit for game purposes.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A9874 ♦KJ6 ♦83 ♦AQ7

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Population imbalance should get top priority

Industrial sector needs new strategy: study

By M.C. Boses
Business editor

THERE is no clear picture about the exact role of industrialisation in Kuwait, a recent study conducted by a Kuwaiti bank stressed. The study quoted a report made in 1985 by the Economy Activation Committee as saying that the strategic decision that considers the industry as one of the means to diversify the production base, is still lacking. This in turn, lead to the absence of a clear picture about the role of industry and the absence of a programme that determines its priorities.

The study said that there is no clear answer whether diversifying the production base is a strategic goal for the development and whether industry is one of its means. The study which centred on the main obstacles facing industrialisation and the industrial sector in Kuwait, said that this is one of the major obstacles facing industry in Kuwait.

The study added that another obstacle is that so far the concerned authorities have not decided on which industries they would like to see in Kuwait. It said that as long as the industrial strategy is absent, the determination of which industries we want in this country will remain impossible to figure it out. It added that the present structure of local industry cannot thus be explained on the basis of a fixed standard. It does not answer the question whether the present pattern of local industry came to existence to meet the local demands or it exceeds local demands for other purposes.

The study said that the absence, or the delay in taking the decision about the strategy of local industry, is closely related to the imbalance in the local population. It stressed that the industrial sector is the least sector in the country that employs national manpower.

According to the 1985 general census results, the Kuwaiti manpower represents only 8 per cent

of the total workforce employed by the productive industry and forms only 3 per cent of the whole manpower in the industrial sector as a whole.

According to another industry source, Kuwaiti manpower gets only 3 per cent of the wages paid to industrial manpower, if oil products industry is excluded.

A study carried out by the Industrial Bank of Kuwait showed that Kuwaiti form only 1.8 per cent of the employees of industrial installations financed by the bank. Arab manpower forms 48.5 per cent while non-Arabs form 49.7 per cent. It said that population imbalance is a national security issue and thus should be on top of the priorities of the decision makers.

The study added that another dilemma comes up for the local industry, which is how to solve the problem of industrialisation and that of population imbalance. It questioned that do we want an industry for the aim of diversification or to serve an important goal like solving the population imbalance.

Another major problem facing industry in Kuwait is the presence of several supervising bodies on the industrial sector. This is a highly important organisational matter, the study said. The industrial investors, because of this, are forced to deal with many factors whether in the stage of preparation or implementation of the industrial project. The various laws and decrees regulating industry in the country, coupled the problems facing the industrial sector. There are as many as 65 laws and decrees regulating the industrial sectors in Kuwait.

A recent study prepared by a Kuwaiti bank revealed that a large number of ministries, establishments and departments, having relations with the industrial sector, overlap in their duties. Some of these are the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, Planning, Electricity and Water, Fire Department, Municipality, Customs Depart-

Kind of Economic Activity	Gross Domestic Product by kind of economic activity at current prices 1986-1988 (KD million)		
	(a)	(b)	(c)
Agriculture and fishing	1986	1987	1988
Agriculture and livestock	41.81	48.95	50.22
Fishing	33.26	45.53	54.64
Mining and quarrying	3.55	4.43	5.58
Crude petroleum & natural gas	1,675.20	2,232.27	2,001.57
Quarrying and other mining	1,675.10	2,232.18	2,001.58
Manufacturing	595.27	803.51	737.13
Food beverages and tobacco	41.73	42.80	43.66
Textiles, wearing apparel, and leather production	26.97	25.91	26.95
Wood and wood products	11.03	12.27	12.76
Paper, printing and publishing	16.70	20.90	23.83
Petroleum refineries	385.88	585.00	508.82
Chemicals (excluding refineries)	31.54	36.51	37.35
Non-metallic minerals	33.32	32.46	33.76
Basic metals	3.60	4.32	4.97
Fabricated metal products	41.49	40.85	42.49
Other manufactures	1.01	2.49	2.54
Electricity, gas and water	-8.76	-29.79	-42.29
Electricity and gas	-70.85	-36.66	-50.31
Water production and distribution	1.09	9.87	8.02
Construction	181.30	147.23	153.12
Wholesale & retail trade, hotels and restaurants	572.55	590.31	523.57
Wholesale and retail trade	521.73	478.15	468.59
Hotels and restaurants	50.82	52.16	54.98
Transport, storage and communications	281.71	257.86	263.57
Transport and storage	197.87	188.91	187.60
Communications	63.84	68.95	75.97
Finance, real estate & business services	614.77	687.11	712.79
Financial institutions	111.98	146.83	148.74
Insurance	14.15	14.01	13.87
Real estate	459.91	480.89	510.39
Business services	31.73	35.52	39.79
Community, social & personal services	1,182.49	1,219.22	1,198.84
Public administration and defence	489.98	517.00	503.49
Sanitary and related services	33.88	33.86	33.87
Education	332.25	334.44	333.22
Health	161.00	164.20	161.84
Social security and welfare services	30.78	33.29	32.04
Recreational and cultural services	48.93	53.35	51.07
Personal and household services	85.67	83.08	83.41
Sub-total	5,059.34	5,897.68	5,608.72
Import duties	59.54	57.28	58.06
Imputed bank service charges	-92.52	-98.25	-95.38
Gross Domestic Product at purchasers' values	5,026.36	5,856.71	5,571.40
(a) Revised			
(b) Provisional			

cial managements that can scientifically calculate the production cost.

The study added that the small size of the local market and the low level of protection is another major obstacle. It said that the level of protection available in Kuwait for industry ranges between 5 per cent to 25 per cent. The pretext given is not granting the protection to local industry even in the beginning is to protect the consumers and the fear being that this protection could become permanent for lack of competence in local industry. The low capability of competence in the local industry is attributed to the low level of protection granted, which results in reducing the share of local industries in the local market. This results in not utilising the full production capacity of the local factories, which also leads to increasing the production cost, ultimately reducing the chances of local industries to compete in the local market.

The study added that the Kuwaiti industry also lacks the necessary information base that helps it to be acquainted with the latest technology advancement in the world. It added that the local industry also does not spend much on research to develop its methods of production. The study also stressed that the Kuwaiti industry is suffering from the lack of awareness of the local consumers of its level and standard, thus resulting in putting it at the bottom of the consumers options. It said that the local industry also suffers from the high cost of construction and equipments.

Studies revealed that the cost of construction and equipments of industrial projects in Kuwait far exceeds similar projects in other countries. Although this is a general phenomenon in the Third World countries, but in Kuwait the difference is very high as costs of industrial projects here exceed by 20-50 per cent of similar projects in the US and Europe.

ment, KJSR and many others. The industrial investors are forced to deal with many of these departments while obtaining the industrial licence, execution and throughout the lifetime of the industrial project. As a solution to this problem, proposals were made to establish one authority to be comprehensively responsible for the whole industry in

Kuwait. Discussions achieved good progress in this direction and a number of laws and decrees were drafted to establish the Public Industry Authority as a first choice and a public authority for industrial areas as a second option.

In addition, the study said that local industry is deeply suffering from the low level of man-

agements which reflect itself on the quantity and quality of production. This is mainly attributed to the lack of well-qualified and competent administration, high costs top management, appointment in administrative posts is subjected to considerations other than qualifications and competence and also the absence of specialised finan-

KD mostly firm

Gulf Bank weekly market review

BASED on last week's opening middle market FX rates, the KD exchange rate was down against the dollar ending the week at 298.75 fils compared with its week before last closing of 298.18 fils. The KD was higher against the pound sterling ending the week at 466.80 fils compared with its week before last closing of 470.95 fils. The KD was higher against the DM ending the week at 152.70 fils compared with its week before last closing of 153.57 fils. The KD was higher against the SFR ending the week at 176.27 fils compared with its week before last closing of 176.50 fils.

The KD was easier against the Jordanian dinar ending the week at 415.51 fils compared with its week before last closing of 402.94 fils. The KD was slightly easier against all other GCC currencies compared to the week before last rates.

As to the KD money market, short term interbank rates traded almost on average unchanged over the week. One-month interbank rates traded over the week with 8.50 per cent-8.68 per cent range compared with 8.37 per cent-6.75 per cent range the week before last. While 3-month interbank rates traded within 8.62 per cent-8.81 per cent range compared with the week before last. Rates for longer periods traded also within a relatively narrow range of 8.62 per cent-8.81 per cent and 8.75 per cent-8.87 per cent for 6 and 12 months respectively.

World stock markets

Wall Street stock prices eased sharply earlier in the week on heavy futures-related programme selling, but rallied later on a rise in bond prices on a well-received 5 year note auction, a heavy dose of stock index arbitrage and a burst of speculative activity, revolving around takeovers. The Dow Jones Industrial Average opened the week at 2647 and closed higher at 2732, recording a gain of 39 points over the previous week's closing of 2693.

Share prices on the London Stock Exchange moved higher last week and showed a remarkable resilience to bad news following a worse than expected UK trade figures. The London market's continued optimism appears to reflect the view that domestic interest rates will not move any higher.

US dollar

The dollar over most part of the week traded aimlessly, due to lack of new fresh data. Furthermore, many investors were sidelined in taking the dollar positions as they were waiting for next week's release of US Gross National Products figures.

The US Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee (FOMC) who met previously this week is expected to have discussed the state of the US economy. The decisions made by the FOMC at its closed meeting will not be made public until October 6. Economists expect the FOMC policy-makers to have decided to hold interest rates steady for the time being, since the Fed had eased its grip slightly on credit earlier this summer in the face of economic weakness, bringing the Federal funds rate down by about three-quarters of a percentage point.

Japanese yen

The yen opened the week against the dollar at 143.05/15 yen and closed the week lower at 143.85/95 yen compared to its week before last closing at 142.55/65 yen.

The main feature of last week was the pound's fall on news Britain's July current account deficit was £2.06 billion, the second worst month, after a deficit of £1.5 billion in June. The UK trade deficit for July was £2.46 billion, also the second biggest on record.

French franc

The French franc opened the week against the dollar at 6.5990/20 FFR and closed lower at 6.6015/45 FFR, compared to its week before last closing of 6.5950/80 FFR.

Swiss franc

The Swiss franc opened the week against the dollar at 1.6860/70 SFR and closed lower at 1.6905/15 SFR compared to its week before last closing of 1.6870/80 SFR.

Precious metals

Precious metals prices eased sharply last week as gold prices slipped in Europe on selling ahead of the expiry of over-the-counter options this week. However, the underlying cause of the slump is attributed also to poor demand. With the threat of a steep rise in inflation fading in industrial countries, and talk of a soft landing in the US economy rather than a recession, there is little incentive to hold tangible assets like gold, rather than money.

Gold bullion prices opened the week at 366.25/366.50 \$/oz, and closed sharply lower recording a loss of 6 \$/oz over the previous week's closing of 366.50.

Silver bullion prices opened the week at 5.22/5.24 \$/oz and closed sharply lower at 5.10/5.12 \$/oz, recording a loss of 15 cents over the previous week's closing of 5.25/5.27 \$/oz.

Platinum prices opened the week against the dollar at 480.50/481.50 \$/oz, and closed lower at 472/473 \$/oz, recording a share loss of 11 \$/oz over the previous week's closing of 483/484 \$/oz.

ON THE DOUBLE

ON THE DOT

Oil, gas production to start in 3 years

Kerala-Konkan offshore base



Toshiki Kaifu

COCHIN, Aug 27: Commercial exploitation of oil and natural gas from the Kerala-Konkan offshore base off Cochin coast is expected to begin in three years, reports an economic daily.

The Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, S. Krishnamurthy and the secretary, Union Petroleum Ministry, H.K. Khan, in a joint press conference here last week said there were firm indications of finding about 150 million tonnes of commercially exploitable oil reserves valued at Rs 20,000 million in the region.

The latest well drilled by ONGC which had been working in the area since 1975 yielded sufficient hydrocarbon contents

indicating the chances of a big oil reserve on the lines of Bombay High in the region located about 75 km west off Cochin coast. Khan said drilling of five specific wells in the region would start early next year.

Khan said a three-year time frame has been fixed for intensifying oil exploration in the region. A special task force has been constituted which would work under a special officer of the ONGC with its base at Cochin. Later, a regional office of the ONGC would also be set up in Cochin.

Khan said ONGC's offshore geophysical survey vessel 'M.V. Arweshac' had already arrived in the region for conducting

advanced seismic surveys for locating specific spots of oil concentration in the Kerala-Konkan base, consisting of the oil-rich Cochin High and its peripheral areas.

He said that ONGC would be drilling three, while two foreign firms BHP (Australia) and Shell International (Holland) would be drilling one each.

Khan said it was calculated that there would be at least 1600 million tonnes of oil and natural gas in the region, of which 150 million tonnes of oil could easily be exploited commercially for up to 15 to 20 years at the rate of five million to 10 million tonnes a year.

Americans now see Japan's economic power as a greater threat to their future than the Soviets' military challenge, according to several surveys.

Despite a need for strong and stable Japanese leadership, Kaifu will travel to the White House as one of the nation's weakest prime ministers in years. Kaifu leaves Wednesday for a five-day trip to San Francisco, Washington and Boston followed by visits to Mexico and Canada.

Barely two weeks in office, Kaifu is battling for his political life at home and will be hamstrung from making any meaningful promises to assuage the growing anti-Japanese sentiment. It is not at all certain whether Kaifu — the third premier in as many months — can hold onto the leadership for the rest of the year.

On the table in the Bush-Kaifu meeting and more detailed talks to open in Tokyo in September will be Japan's tight knit network of business that buy, sell, loan and borrow to and from each other at the exclusion of American companies.

KIA endorses strategy to regulate investments

THE managing director of the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) Dr Fahd Al Rasheed has said that KIA adopted measures to avoid dual membership by its representatives in the various companies, boards of directors, within the framework of its effort to develop the programme of evaluation and follow-up what was commissioned three years ago.

He told a local newspaper that the programme had been a success and yielded positive results, stressing that selection of representatives to companies' board of directors was based on clearly-defined regulations.

He said that KIA's primary obligation, as a government agency in charge of managing

BUSINESS

10,000 join protest against soaring housing prices

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Aug 27. (AP): More than 10,000 people staged a protest in a downtown shopping and residential area yesterday to demand strict government measures to curb soaring land and house prices because of rampant speculation.

The protesters, claiming they could never afford to buy their own houses, lay down in the middle of streets briefly as police blocked traffic throughout the area.

Lee Hsin-Chang, who heads the Houseless People's Union that organised the demonstration, told the crowd, "a house is not a commercial product to be speculated. It is our basic right to own a house."

"Let us rescue Taipei from being occupied by the housing speculators," said Lee.

Organisers said rentals and housing prices in Taipei soared mainly because of rampant speculation by companies who buy massive land or housing tracts.

They cited a government report that says a Taipei apart-

ment was sold for an average of 12 million Taiwan dollars (\$460,000) last year, and it would take 19 years of an average family's entire income to buy one.

As housing costs have increased more than 200 per cent since 1987, they said, monthly rental for a two-bedroom apartment in Taipei amounted to up to \$1,100 this year.

The protesters demanded that the government set rental ceilings and restrict insurance and investment firms from buying houses.

They also wanted more public housing built and low-interest loans provided to first-time housing buyers.

Interior Minister Hsu Shui-Teh told the Houseless People's Association on Friday the government would consider building more public housing in suburban areas and setting rental ceilings.

Organisers said they would stage more protests if the government failed to propose and carry out concrete plans soon. The demonstrators dispersed after three hours.



Taiwan people blanket Taipei's exclusive Ding Hao shopping district in last night's sleep-out demonstration against rocketing house prices. (Reuter wirephoto)

Debt bomb could explode

Africa warns creditors

CAIRO, Aug 27. (Reuter): African officials, worried that the continent's debt crisis is primed to explode, meet in Cairo on Monday to try writing more debt relief from creditors.

The seminar arranged by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) is part of a four-year campaign for an international conference to solve Africa's \$240-billion foreign debt crisis.

"By the year 2002 the total debt of Africa may explode to a value of 1,500 billions," warned a briefing document prepared for delegates.

"If the borrowing terms continued (unchanged) in the medium and long run, servicing this fast increasing debt could be unsustainable," it said.

Creditors generally have shied away from any international conference, saying adequate channels of contact already exist.

Many prefer a case-by-case approach, wary that a conference would set a dangerous precedent for collective bargaining which Latin American debtors, with their greater economic muscle, might exploit.

The OAU, acknowledging that the proposed conference has not received international acceptance, said today some of the measures it wanted to discuss had not been understood.

Creditors

Seeking to allay any fears among creditors that such talks could lead to major confrontation, it said they would be a platform for constructive dialogue.

Officials from creditor nations, multilateral bodies such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and private banks have been invited to the Cairo seminar.

A seminar document prepared by the OAU and the UN Economic Commission for Africa described as "noteworthy", but of limited help, a series of creditor initiatives in recent years to ease Africa's debt burden.

These included steps to reschedule debts over longer periods, to write off some debts and to cut interest rates.

But the problem of reducing the stock of debt, or increasing concessions on repayments, had not been given enough attention, the document said.

It said foreign debt was the main obstacle to growth in Africa's economies, which have been hit by falls in prices for the continent's main exports of minerals and farm products and by civil strife and drought.

The document said a slowdown in foreign aid and a jump in debt dues, which in some countries exceeded export earnings, had turned the world's poorest continent into a net exporter of resources.

US may increase its economic estimates

Growth boosted

WASHINGTON, Aug 27. (Reuter): The US government, buoyed by figures showing the economy doing much better than expected, is likely to increase its estimate of annual economic growth.

The Commerce Department is expected on Tuesday to issue a new estimate of the gross national product (GNP) based on the second quarter that is expected to show a 2.5 per cent rise in the annual rate, adjusted for inflation, instead of the 1.7 per cent projected by the department on July 27.

It will make one more revision in its second quarter figures for GNP, the broadest economic gauge which measures total output of goods and services, in September. The revisions in GNP estimates are the result of more data becoming available.

GNP grew by 3.7 per cent in the first three months of 1989.

The huge US trade deficit has hindered growth but June's trade of \$8.17 billion, helped by rising exports, was the lowest in more than four years.

The revised estimate looked set to confound some analysts who predicted that the US economy was at a standstill.

US import and export prices both fell in July for the second straight month, the government reported yesterday.

Last month, import prices fell 0.8 per cent, following a revised 1.2 per cent drop in June, according to the Department of Labour's Bureau of Labour Statistics in Atlanta.

Inflation could also be slightly lower. "Better growth and a little lower inflation would be a nice result of the revisions," said

Allen Sinai, chief economist for the Boston Company.

The US economy's expansion, now in its seventh year, is the second-longest ever but the pace is slow compared to earlier periods of growth and economists disagree over the outlook.

Wall Street stocks surged to new highs last week, partly fuelled by the view that the economy had gained momentum. But analysts said the market could be hit by worries over interest rates and inflation.

Lyle Gramley, chief economist for the Mortgage Bankers Association, said the economy was undergoing a slowdown that would reduce growth to one or 1.5 per cent in the current third quarter but predicted the economy would bounce back in the fourth quarter.

Kathryn Kobe, vice-president of the forecasting firm Joel Popkin and Company, said the impact of the Federal Reserve's tight grip on credit earlier this year would mean weakness for the rest of the year.

"Maybe they hit it right, but we are pessimistic that maybe it was overdone," she said.

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Export prices were down 0.4 per cent in July, after losing 0.3 per cent in June.

The BLS said the decrease in

the US import price index was widespread as, for the second consecutive month, all the major components fell.

Although falling prices for imported oil, down 1.9 per cent, led the decline, the index for non-petroleum imports, down 0.5 per cent, fell for the fourth time in the past six months.

The bureau noted that the decrease in prices for non-oil imports was due, in part, to the appreciation of the dollar on international markets.

The import price index stood at 119 in July, with a base of 100 for 1985, a figure well below world and US inflation.

Since the United States and the other major industrial powers pressured the dollar down on world markets in 1986, exporters to United States have tried to cut into their profit margins in order to keep their share of the market.

Among the components of the import index, food, feeds and beverages stood in July at 110.7 down 0.9 per cent, industrial supplies and materials at 103, down 1.2 per cent, capital goods at 130.3, down 0.5 per cent, motor vehicles at 127.4, down 0.7 per cent, and consumer goods at 128.9, down 0.3 per cent.

The decline in the export price index followed a 0.3 per cent decrease in the previous month and was primarily due to a drop in the index for industrial supplies and materials, down for the third consecutive month, as well as a sharp fall in prices for exported fish, the BLS said.

The export price index stood at 112.7 in July, with a base of 100 for 1985.

Bid to beat strike

Australia might charter aircraft

SYDNEY, Aug 27. (Reuter): Australian domestic air services halted by a pilots' pay row are considering bringing in chartered aircraft and crews to break the deadlock, Transport Minister Ralph Willis said today.

Willis said state-owned Australian Airlines and their private-sector counterparts Ansett and East-West as well as the government — which would have to sanction the decision — were now urgently studying the possibility.

Chartered planes and crews would augment the 3,000-5,000 seats now being offered each day to domestic passengers by international airlines and the skeleton service being operated by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

"We're ... considering the introduction of charter flights, that is fully chartered with crew as well as aeroplane, from overseas. That's being urgently considered right now," Willis said during a television interview on Sydney's Channel Ten.

"The domestic airlines are thinking of that policy initiative and we're certainly considering that from our side."

Willis said there were some

technical difficulties to be overcome, but he believed the problems could be solved in time for an early decision.

However, he said charter flights could not replace the 40,000 seats a day lost by the shutdown of the three airlines and the mass resignation of all 1,600 of their pilots.

The pilots quit on Thursday after the airlines, supported by the Labour government, refused to talk about their 30 per cent wage demand and started dissolving and taking legal action against individual fliers.

The dispute has been running for about two weeks as the pilots tried to overcome the government's determination to keep wage growth this year at about six per cent, just below the current inflation rate in Australia.

Meanwhile, the world-wide Ansett, Australian and East-West recruitment campaign for new pilots which started yesterday is being countered by advertisements placed in international aviation magazines by the Australian Federation of Airline Pilots (AFAP).

The AFAP advertisements

warn potential applicants that they will be considered strike breakers and that any settlement of the dispute will include "the immediate cancellation of contracts with strike-breaking pilots."

AFAP president Brian McCarthy, a Boeing 727 captain with Australian Airlines, said today the advertisement was simply to warn other flight crews of the situation in Australia.

"Combined with the world shortage of airline pilots and overseas pilots' salaries substantially higher than Australian equivalents, the possibility of overseas recruitment is remote," McCarthy said in a statement.

Another AFAP source noted that any would-be new pilot would require a current Australian licence, and that all the examiners were either existing flight crew who had resigned, or AFAP members in government service.

McCarthy repeated earlier statements that the AFAP was quite prepared to re-enter negotiations, without preconditions, at any time. The airlines have said the pilots must agree to the government's six per cent ceiling before they will talk.

KUWAIT						
BANK SECTOR	P. CLS	LT.	HIGH	LOW	VOL.	TRADE
-NATIONAL BANK	1.020	1.020	1.020	1.020	385000	19
-GULF BANK	0.365	0.365	0.365	0.360	30000	3
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.275	0.270	0.270	0.270	630000	13
-AHLI BANK	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-B.K.M.E	0.355	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.R.E.B	0.355	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-BURGAN BANK	0.265	0.260	0.260	0.260	50000	2
-K.F. HOUSE	0.475	0.475	0.475	0.470	30000	3
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KUT INV. CO.	0.075	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.I.I.C.	0.064	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-COM. FACILITIES	0.425	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AHLIAH INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-I.F.A.	0.095	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-NATIONAL INV.	0.064	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT PROJECTS.	0.083	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KUT INSURANCE	0.590	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF INS.	0.320	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-AHlia INS. CO.	0.480	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-MARIBA INS. CO.	0.320	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
REAL EST. SECTOR						
-INV. PEARL KUT	0.094	0.094	0.094	0.094	80000	1
-KUT. KEST CO.	0.128	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-UNI. R. EST. CO.	0.090	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-WAT. R. EST. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-SALHIA R.E.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-NAT. IND. CO.	0.500	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT. M.P. IND.	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-KUT. CEMENT CO.	0.178	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-REF. IND. CO.	0.355	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-N. A.M.T. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-GULF CABLE	0.990	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.158	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-CONT. MARINE	0.300	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
-K.SH. REP. CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
SERVICES SECTOR						

VIDEO CORNER

Mad Max team takes to the high seas

By Sean Siskin

DEAD CALM is a film from the same team that produced the Mad Max road warrior series, only this time they leave the chase behind and move into the area of suspense. Sam Neill and Nicole Kidman play John and Rae Ingram, an melancholy Australian couple who take to the high seas in order to try to forget the sudden and tragic death of their son.

Alone and thousands of miles from land on their small boat, they encounter a sinking, derelict schooner, the Orpheus, and its lone survivor, a frightened, exhausted young American named Hughie (Billy Zane).

Hughie claims that his crew died of some terrible shipboard disease, but John finds that Hughie's story doesn't have the ring of truth about it.

Just as John discovers the grisly truth behind Hughie's antics aboard the Orpheus, Hughie escapes from his cabin and makes off with John's boat and wife stranding John alone on the crippled, sinking schooner. Can like Rae overcome the brawny minx Hughie in time to turn the boat around and rescue her husband?

Writer-producer Terry Hayes, who co-authored the "Max" saga with series producer George Miller, bring a characteristically humorous and propulsive mixture of twists and turns to the adventure, alternating between Rae's battle of wits and muscle with Hughie, and John's desperate battle to keep what's left of Hughie's doomed schooner afloat.

Both *For Queen and Country* and *Jackknife* "After the war is over what then?" films. *Jackknife* is American and stars Robert de Niro and Ed Harris as two Vietnam vets trying to come to terms with the emptiness in their lives. David (Harris) isn't dealing with life too well, belligerent, truly unfriendly — and yet pitiable — David's alcohol consumption is out of control, and so is his life. His dependency extends to his sister Martha (Kathy Baker), a rather sparsely biology teacher whose own life has been subsumed over by her brother's needs. When Megs Jackknife (De Niro) enters their lives, he upsets their precariously balanced existence with humour and a lively vulgarity.

An army buddy of David's, Megs has dealt with the after-



Nicole Kidman and Billy Zane in 'Dead Calm'.

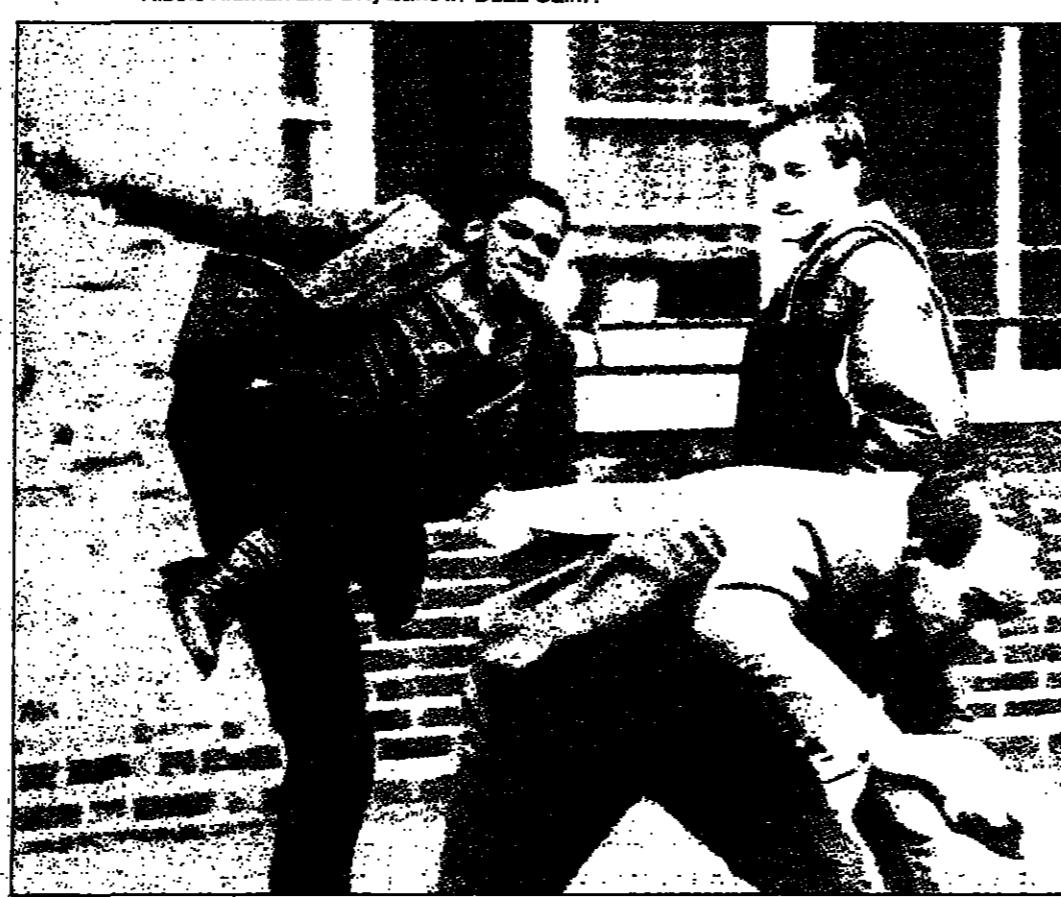
math of war, which still threatens David enormously. Even more threatening however is the blossoming somewhat improbable romance between Megs and Martha.

If you want to see some great acting don't miss this one. De Niro especially is in a class of his own, his character really comes alive and you feel with Megs as he comes to realize where his future lies.

For *Queen and Country* tells the story of an ex-paratrooper who quits the British army after distinguished service in Northern Ireland and the Falklands and returns to his London estate home to find only dole and depression.

This urban thriller will come as quite a culture shock to British audiences used to their screen policemen as a cross between Dixon of Dock Green and The Sweeney, here the police are generally portrayed as argumentative, pious-happy Nazis.

The ex-pa Rueben James (Denzel Washington) finds his friend Fish (Dorian Healy), who lost a leg on active service, is broke and bitter, while another one-time friend Colin has become a drug dealer. Harassed by the police and unable to find work Reuben takes on the job of "minder" for Colin, which proves fatally compromising when he is forced to take sides after his estate erupts into violence when the local community policeman is



Denzel Washington kicks out in 'For Queen and Country'.

murdered.

Good performances all round although the film does paint a depressing (or realistic?) view of life in London's suburbs. Someone is always picking on Stallone. In *Lock Up* he finds himself in the clink

with a whole crew of meanness — from the vengeful warden (Donald Sutherland) and some sadistic guards to Chink (Sonny Landham) and a few British inmates. Love — of course — is what keeps him going: Melissa (Darlanne

Fluegel) inspires him to use all that brawn and also some brains against his oppressors.

The new James Belushi action-comedy *K9* and *Winter People* with Kelly McGillis and Kurt Russell are also newly available.

Konkani drama

NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintam Zalim Sopnam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chaplin of Goa "Jacinto Vaz" along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. For tickets contact Canary Video (Sharq) or Video Club (near GPO).

FILM

British Council

CHILDREN'S film: The Little Prince For the Love of Animals on Wednesday, Aug 30 at 6.00 pm and Thursday, Aug 31 at 10.30 pm.

An enchanting animated adaptation of the classical tale by Antoine de Saint Exupery. Join the little prince as he catches a flaming comet for a ride down to his favourite planet earth! (running time 50 mins).

Admission is free, but it is advisable to book seats in advance. Tel: 2515512/253 3204/253 2277.

FILM

At the Pullman Hotel

AL Shallal coffee shop: Offers daily businessman's lunch "a la carte" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7.30 pm.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm.

Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

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Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

At the SAS hotel

AL GHAZIER: SAS hotel's very own handcrafted shawarma. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackles provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

AL BOOM: Dine on charcoal grilled foods and finish off with delectable coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursdays and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese specialities served in a very

cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

EEDAM: Wide varieties of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to specialise from Eedam daily special also available.

CLOCK: Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialities.

At the Kuwait International

LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Failaka: Rooftop restaurant overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy our poolside barbecue event every Friday afternoon.

La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

At the Kuwait Plaza hotel

SPECIAL breakfast: Al-Dallah coffee shop features the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only K.D.995 only.

Special lunch and dinner: Also at Al-Dallah coffee shop the buffet for lunch and dinner full of varieties of continental, oriental and Arabic food with Piza special touch plus delectable sweets and fruits of the season. All these and more for only K.D.995.

Roman nights: The Italian restaurant in the heart of Kuwait takes you to the heart of Rome. Enjoy our exotic Italian specialities and our wide variety of Italian dishes with the music of our resident duo Stan and Alice.

SPORTS

Unity nets

SEPT 1. (Friday). The Unity

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
9.30 Ifthah Ya Simsim: children cultural programme
10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
10.15 Asr Al Hob: daily Arabic serial (Part 9)
11.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
11.15 Ablah Moneera: daily local serial (Part 4)
12.05 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety
12.15 Summer Clubs: local programme
1.00 News Summary
1.05 The World Today via Satellite
1.30 Sport: Billy: cartoon serial

2.15 Al Hejra Illa Al Watan: Arabic serial (Part 7)
3.15 Inshah Al Haq: religious programme, prepared and presented by Abdur Hameed Al Zandani
3.35 Al Taneen Al Sagheer: cartoon serial

4.00 Cartoons
4.30 Meera Al Seneen: historical serial
5.30 Children and summer: local programme
6.00 Variety
6.30 Night chemists, Airlines and official announcements
7.00 The World of Tomorrow: cultural programme
7.45 Holy Quran and Science: religious programme
8.30 Variety: cultural film
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Omsiyat Al Ethneen: local programme
10.15 Ama Wa Ima Wa Baba Fi Al Mishmish: Arabic serial (Part 6)



A scene from Jack and Mike on KTV2 at 10.30 pm today.

11.00 Ihtimalat: cultural programme
12.05 News Summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Bionic Six: Cartoon serial
6.30 The Scheme of Things: Technology invades all aspects of sports and entertainment activities. How birds sing. The language of bees.
7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities.
7.30 Charles in Charge: 'Weekend Weery.' The family holds an auction for selling certain articles when Char-

ries' friend interferes in an unusual manner.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Paradise: 'A Matter Of Honour.' Ganin's gang attacks the farmers, looting their farms and killing their cattle. Uncle Ethan tries to stop the gang.

9.30 227: 'A Class Act.' Unimpressed with Brenda's wisecracking history teacher, Mary has words with the school principal.
10.00 Tales Of The Unexpected: 'Run, Rabbit Run.' An American soldier attempts to write a book about a French woman who killed her husband by mockery and scornful laughter when she suspects him as a double agent.
10.30 Jack and Mike. 'Fire And Ice.' Mike has to co-operate with the police against a gang boss who attempts to become Mike's partner in the restaurant.
11.30 News in Brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

CINEMA TODAY

Al Firdous
Toofan
Al Andalus
Red Scorpion
Al Salmiya
Revenge of Nerds II
Al Hamra
Arabic film
Drive-in
Arabic film
Almadi Drive-in
Arabic film
Fahabeel Open-air
Adat Se Majboor
Al Fahabeel
Shaolin Magnificent

Al Jabra
Cocktail
Grenada
Young Guns
Al Sufaihat
Top Line
Al Jeeb
Abidhi Dash

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.00 am
Zuhr 11.49
Asr 3.22 pm
Maghreb 6.14
Isha 7.34

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Alamiya Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Janoub Building
Talal Pharmacy
Al Hilal Street, Opp. to the Ministry of Education
Nigra and Hawalli
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Hawalli, Tunis Street, Zaid Al Sarhan Building
Salmiya and Rumaihiya
Phoenicia Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak Street, Block No. 1, Al Zahra Complex

Fahabeel and Almadi
Al Sheba Pharmacy
Fahabeel, Late Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Inheritors Building
New Khetan
Al Tasamoh Pharmacy
Ebin Sareel Street, Property of Dala Mithal

Jahra

Al Abraj Pharmacy
Daabah Al Khooz Street, Near the Educational Department

The child's name in the caption of the picture 'Everyone a winner' on page 1 of Arab Times yesterday appeared wrongly as Marian Martin. The correct name is Marian Main. She won the Little Miss Metro Manila title at the Little Mr and Mrs Philippines-Kuwait contest held on Friday.



Al Mulla summer draw

The lucky winner of the Al Mulla summer draw for car purchasers was Mrs Shaimah Sahaad Al Muthain. The winner was awarded a luxurious Chrysler Fifth Avenue at the Al Mulla Showrooms. The promotion for a Free Car is continuing for the current Chrysler/Mitsubishi purchasers also. Picture shows a view of the draw in progress.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs, 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays, 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Saxie House
SAT - Thurs, 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

Farwell party
SEPT 1. (Friday): The Bangladeshi Association will organise a farewell function for the Economic Counsellor Abdur Raheem Khan at 7 pm at the Bangladeshi embassy premises.

Bangladeshis are requested to contact for details with following persons: Moiz 4310970, Yusuf 4314943, Maksudur Rahman 4881595, Muazzamul Haque 2351312, Ahsraful Islam 4836235 and Abdur Rob 4316823.

People's Art Circle
A MEETING was held at Dr. Kazi A. Mahesar's president Pakistan People's Club, residence to form a committee to organise musical shows and dramas. Asper Rafiq A Mirza, general secretary Pakistan People's Club, People's Art Circle is formed and is headed by Yaqub Pasha with the following committee members: Salman Shah, Ustam Manzoor ul Hassan, Sami Sani, Syed Zafar, Mohd Musa Blouch, Qamar Pervez and Agha Saeed.

Syndicate five
THE British Council presents "Briefing on Britain"

SEPT 15. In a rare spirit of

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION Available

HASSAWI, near the main road. One large room with water and electricity for an Indian or Pakistani Punjabi bachelor to share with an Indian family. Rent KD40. Tele. 4316981, after 9am - 1pm, 4-7pm. (AT2-48985-2)

OLDSMOBILE '98 Regency Brougham 1995, fully automatic with AC, in very good condition. Tel. 5331100. (AT3-48991-3)

CITROEN/Prestige 1986, AC, automatic low mileage. In excellent condition. Used by a company's director. KD1200. Tel. Yaqub 4843075, 4847496, 17 hrs. (AT1-48963-3)

REQUIRED Europeans to share a furnished villa in Salwa. Tel. 4717911 Ext 233, 9013310. (AT1-48957-3)

KUWAIT city near the GPO. Shared accommodation in a CAC apartment for a couple or executive bachelors from 1st September. Tel. 2406332 and leave message on answering machine. (AT2-Mos-HU-3)

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SPORTS

Evert set to play her last US Open

NEW YORK, Aug. 27. (AP): Eighteen years, five presidents and two marriages later, after playing her first US Open, Chris Evert is about to play her last.

Evert, who is retiring at the end of the season, will close out her Grand Slam career at the tournament where she first rose to prominence as a 16-year-old semifinalist in 1971.

The US Open, which starts tomorrow at the national tennis centre, has been Evert's main stage ever since. She has won it six times — most recently in 1982 — and reached at least the semifinals in all but one of her 18 previous appearances.

Evert, who is the tournament's all-time leader in singles victories (97), singles matches played (108) and career wins as the No. 1 seed (7). She shares the record for most years as a US Open seed (18) with Jimmy Connors.

Evert is seeded fourth this year behind defending champion Steffi Graf, four-time winner Martina Navratilova and Gabriela Sabatini. She would love to go out with a seventh title, but she admits her chances are slim.

"A couple of friends recently told me they didn't even want me to play the Open," Evert says in the current Sports Illustrated. "They wanted to remember me by that final wave on centre court after I lost to Steffi in the semis at Wimbledon."

"I understand why they feel that way but, hey, I want to play till I run out of gas. At least let me make the decision."

While Evert is on her way out, four-time US Open champion John McEnroe is on his way back up.

McEnroe is having his best year since 1985 and has climbed to No. 4 in the world rankings. He has won 34 of 39 matches and three titles this year, including a recent victory at the US Hardcourt Championships in Indianapolis.

Although McEnroe still has a trigger temper, he controls it better than Evert does.

"I used to play better when I was angry, but I don't need that kind of motivation anymore," he said.

McEnroe, 30, hasn't won a Grand Slam title since the 1984 US Open. But he played impressively in his last major tournament, reaching the semifinals at Wimbledon before losing to Stefan Edberg.

Edberg, who has lost the last two Grand Slam finals to Michael Chang at the French Open and Boris Becker at Wimbledon, is the Swiss' seed at the US Open, behind Ivan Lendl and Becker and just ahead of McEnroe.

Edberg's bid for a fourth consecutive US Open title was stopped by Mats Wilander in last year's final. If Lendl reaches the championship match again, he will tie the tournament record of eight consecutive finals set by Bill Tilden from 1918-25.

Becker withdrew from a warm-up tournament last week because of a back injury, but is expected to be ready for the Open. The West German has won three Wimbledons, but has never gotten past the semifinals at the Open.

After winning three of the four Grand Slams last year and taking over the No. 1 ranking, Wilander has failed to win a tournament in 1989 and slipped to No. 5.

Following Wilander in the seedings are Americans Andre Agassi, Chang, Brian Gilbert and Tim Mayotte.

Like Wilander, Andre Agassi is winless on the Grand Prix circuit this year following a sensational 1988 season. He reached the final at the Italian Open, but blew a match point and lost a five-setter to Alberto Manzini.

Chang's victory in Paris made him the youngest male (17 years, 3 months) to win a Grand Slam singles title. His best hardcourt result this year was a semifinal showing in Memphis.

Gilbert is the hottest player on the tour with a 17-match winning streak, including consecutive victories over Chang, Becker and Edberg at last week's ATP Championships. The title was Gilbert's third in three weeks, making him the first player to accomplish the feat since Becker in 1986.

In the women's competition, Graf is favoured to reach her 11th straight Grand Slam final. The West German has lost only two matches this year, to Gabriela Sabatini at Amelia Island and Arantxa Sanchez at the French Open.

Ivanisevic surprises Agassi in semifinals

PRINCETON, New Jersey, Aug. 27. (UPI): Top seed Andre Agassi was upset by 17-year-old Chris Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia 6-4, 6-1, in yesterday's semifinals of the \$54,000 New Jersey Bell Invitational.

In the other semifinal, Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union, who replaced an injured Sergio Bruguera of Spain on Thursday, rallied from one set and a service break down to beat David Wheaton 5-7, 6-4, 6-1.

Agassi, ranked sixth in the world, was unable to handle the big serves and wicked groundstrokes launched by Ivanisevic, who said he played the best tennis of his career.

Leading 4-1 in the second set but trail-

ing 0-40 in the sixth game, Ivanisevic stunned Agassi by striking a service winner followed by four straight aces. He finished the match with a total of nine aces, compared with five by Agassi.

"He was hitting so well that I couldn't

control the points," said Agassi, seeded sixth in next week's US Open.

Wheaton, controlling play from the net, came back from a 2-5 deficit in the opening set and won eight straight games to go ahead 3-0 in the second.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Chang triumphs

WILMINGTON, Delaware, Aug. 27. (UPI): Michael Chang beat Berger yesterday to reach the final of the \$54,000 Wilmington Tennis Classic.

Chang, the 17-year-old French Open champion eliminated seventh-seeded Milosz Mecic of Czechoslovakia, 7-5, 5-7, 6-2. Berger, the fifth seed, defeated defending champion and sixth-seeded Emilio Sanchez of Spain, 6-2, 5-7, 6-1.

Alamo Cup

ATLANTA, Aug. 27. (AP): The American men's team finished in three of the final five events and Olympian Janet Evans yesterday became the first woman in the history of the USA-USSR series to win three individual events as the US cruised to a 20-13 victory at the Alamo Cup dual swimming meet.

Little League

WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania, Aug. 27. (AP): Trumbull, Connecticut, was the first American team since 1981 to win the Little League World Series, beating Kaohsiung, Taiwan, 6-2 yesterday.

Waltrip wins

BRISTOL, Tennessee, Aug. 27. (AP): Darrell Waltrip ran away with last night's Busch 500 NASCAR stock car race, earning his 11th career victory at Bristol International Raceway.

Cup suspended

CAIRO, Aug. 27. (Reuters): Egypt beat Kenya 70-60 in their World Cup African group second round soccer qualifier here yesterday. Scorers: Hisham Abdell Rassoul (58th minute), Ibrahim Hassan (62nd minute).

Scoreless tie

LILONGWE, Malawi, Aug. 27. (AP): Liberia and Malawi played a scoreless tie in a World Cup Group B soccer qualifying match before a crowd of 20,000 at Civo stadium yesterday.

Women's golf

LAKE LANIER ISLANDS, Ga., Aug. 27. (Reuters): Betsy King shot a two-under-par 70 to take a one-stroke lead over Patty Sheehan and Pat Bradley at the \$265,000 Women's World Championship of Golf yesterday.

Play suspended

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug. 27. (Reuters): Rain forced suspension of the third round of play in the \$500,000 Chattanooga Classic Golf Tournament yesterday, with American Brian Mogg leading by a stroke after 14 holes.

Charles leads

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, Aug. 27. (AP): Bob Charles shot a 3-under-par 66 yesterday and remained on track for a bit of personal history in the Charley Pride Senior Tournament.

First victory

SUGO, Japan, Aug. 27. (Reuters): Australia's Michael Dowson battled through stormy weather caused by a typhoon to score his first victory in the World Superbike Championship today.

Dowson, who finished second in the first race, led from midway through the second lap on a Yamaha to win the second race of the seventh leg of the 11-round series.

Japan triumph

TOKYO, Aug. 27. (AP): Japan beat the Soviet Union 3-1 today to capture the international football games for boys for the second-straight year. The Soviet Union finished second.

Duncan upset

SAN MARINO, Italy, Aug. 27. (AP): Jose Francisco Altur of Spain upset second-seeded Lawson Duncan 6-4, 6-2 yesterday in the semifinals of the San Marino clay court tennis tournament.

Sanchez stuns Sabatini for finals

Navratilova sails past Minter



Navratilova hits a backhand to Minter during their match. (Reuters wirephoto)

Pernfors thrashes Courier

Lendl outlasts Chesnokov

JERICHO, N.Y., Aug. 27. (Reuters): Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia had to scrub off the Soviet Union 7-5, 7-6 in the semifinals of the Hamlet Challenge Cup tennis tournament yesterday.

Chesnokov forced Lendl, the top-ranked player in the world, to set points in each set. Lendl said that despite his unsteady play he was not worried as he nears the US Open title.

"The Open will be a different story," Lendl said. "I'm looking forward to it. It should be fun."

Lendl, who faced Mikael Pernfors of Sweden in today's Hamlet final, blamed most of his problems today on "light conditions" and "lack of concentration."

Pernfors won his semifinal, whipping American Jim Courier, 6-4, 6-1, in a quick 61-minute duel between unseeded players.

Pernfors, 25th in the world, broke Courier's service in the seventh game of the first set and the opening game of the second set before running out the last four games of the match.

Pernfors, a former two-time National Collegiate Athletic Association champion and a losing finalist to Lendl in the 1986 French Open, never faced a break point on his serve.

Lendl, meanwhile, found himself facing various problems.

"I started badly today with very bright sunny conditions that I had to adjust to," Lendl said. "That took me awhile. I couldn't keep my concentration because

of the conditions. Also, this was my first match against Chesnokov and it takes time to adjust to his game and see what he is doing."

Lendl, who produced six straight errors, including a double fault, to start the match, settled down and won the last four games of the first set.

Ahead 4-2 in the second set after it appeared he had solved Chesnokov's first service he lost his own serve, a love in the seventh game, committing a double fault at break point. They then duelled into the tiebreaker at 6-6.

Chesnokov, ranked 18th, had three set points in the tiebreaker at 6-5, 7-6 and 8-7 but couldn't convert them.

Lendl got his first match point

at 9-8 with his sixth ace of the match and broke Chesnokov's serve by forcing an error in a ground stroke duel.

"The match should have been shorter," Lendl said. "I should have put him away when I had him 4-2 in the second set."

Chesnokov, impressive with quickness that enabled to make seemingly impossible returns, kept Lendl off balance in the seventh game.

"I had a chance to win one set if not both. I wasn't aggressive when I had the set points," said Chesnokov, who reached the semifinals of the French Open this year. "I thought I played good but I know I can play better. I think Lendl didn't play good today."

Devoy and Dittmar win titles

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Aug. 27. (Reuters): World number one Susan Devoy won her sixth consecutive New Zealand Open women's squash title today with a hard-fought victory over Australian Danielle Drady.

The all-Australian men's final went to top seed Chris Dittmar, who defeated world number four Rodney Martin.

Devoy, a New Zealander, took 80 minutes to overcome 21-year-old Drady 2-9 9-5, 8-10 9-4 9-0. After the match, she praised Drady's performance, saying she had played well above her world ranking.

"Danielle may be ranked number seven but she played like number two today," said Devoy. "I don't think I have slipped but the standard is higher and I have to work to match that harder."

Drady, who knocked out world champion martine Le Moignan of England in the semifinals, got off to a storming start in the first game, scoring three times from a backhand drop — for so long a Devoy trademark.

Devoy shrugged off her nervousness to fight back in the second game, but Drady was not finished, surviving a Devoy game ball at 8-6 to take the third.

Devoy reacted aggressively to the reverse, taking the fourth game comfortably and the fifth in a six-minute whitewash.

The men's final lacked the tension of the women's match but both Australians produced brilliant shot-making. Dittmar, one place ahead of Martin in the world rankings, took the title with a 13-15 15-17 15-6 17-16 win.

Benfica draw

LISBON, Aug. 27. (Reuters): Champions Benfica, weakened by the absence of their star Brazilian players, fought out a lacklustre 1-1 draw at Guimaraes on the second weekend of the Portuguese soccer season.

Guimaraes' Brazilian Caio Junior scored with a header in the 11th minute, capitalising on the absence of Benfica defenders Ricardo Raimundo and Aldair Santos.



Sanchez raises her arms in victory after defeating Sabatini. (Reuters wirephoto)

Azinger, Frost and Stewart tie for lead

AKRON, Ohio, Aug. 27. (Reuters): Paul Azinger, Payne Stewart and David Frost managed to edge ahead of the field in the tight race for the \$1 million World Series of Golf championship yesterday.

Azinger had a three-under-par 67, Stewart a 68 and Frost a 69 as they led for the lead at three-under-par 207.

Greg Norman of Australia, Ben Crenshaw and Steve Jones are tied for fourth place at two-under-par 208. Norman is bidding to win his second straight tournament following his victory at the International last weekend in Colorado. Crenshaw is after his first victory of the year. Jones, meanwhile, hopes to become the first four-time winner on the tour this year.

Defending champion Mike Reid had a share of the lead until he double bogeyed the long 16th and dropped back to one-under-par 209. He was tied with Corey Pavin and Larry Mize.

Azinger said: "Today was exceptional for me. I made a slight adjustment in my stance (from slightly open to square) and it made a tremendous difference. It helped me a bunch."

Azinger birdied four of his first eight holes and then added two bogeys and a lone birdie on the incoming nine for his 67.

Crenshaw, who led after the first and second rounds, could only manage his second-straight 72 after an opening 64. Norman, after a 65 on Friday, had a 70 yesterday for his 69.

Nick Faldo of Britain continued to be the best of the European contingent. His 73 gave him a three-over par 213 and a tie for 13th place with Scott Hoch, the man he defeated in April for the Masters title.

Ronan Rafferty of Northern Ireland was tied for 19th place at six-over-par 216. Chris Moody of Britain was at 220. Sandy Lyle was at 225 after a 77. Briton Ian Woosnam also had a 77 for a 227 total.



Philadelphia's Len Dykstra falls on his back while avoiding a wild pitch during a National League match against the Dodgers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Williams takes Giants past Expos

NEW YORK, Aug. 27. (AP): Matt Williams hit a three-run homer as the San Francisco Giants beat the Montreal Expos 8-3 yesterday. The first-place Giants now lead Houston by five games in the National League West.

Scott Garrelts, 10-3 and unbeat since June 25, allowed four hits in 7 1-3 innings, struck out seven and walked two. He improved his record at San Francisco's Candlestick Park to 7-1 this season.

He outpitched Montreal's Mark Langston, 10-5, who entered the game as the National League ERA leader at 2.15.

Cardinals 5, Astros 3

Terry Pendleton homered for

SPORTS BRIEFS

Ashford wins

SAPPORO, Japan, Aug. 27, (AP): Evelyn Ashford of the United States, the Seoul Olympic silver medalist, won the women's 100 metres in 11.05 seconds at the Chuhei Nambu Memorial track and field meet yesterday.

Public opinion

NEW YORK, Aug. 27, (AP): Two out of three Americans think Pete Rose should be admitted into baseball's Hall of Fame despite his banishment from the game for gambling, according to a Newsweek poll released yesterday.

Former champion

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 27, (AP): Former heavyweight champion Joe Frazier was hospitalized after a traffic accident, but is expected to be released tomorrow, his manager said. Frazier, 45, was driving to his Philadelphia gym last Sunday when his limousine was hit from behind by another vehicle, manager Burt Watson said.

Equestrian venue

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Aug. 27, (Reuter): The Spanish island of Majorca has been ruled out as an alternative venue for the 1992 Olympic equestrian events, Olympic chief Juan Antonio Samaranch said yesterday.

Sunderland win

LONDON, Aug. 27, (Reuter): Result of an English League Second Division soccer match played today: Sunderland 2, Middlesbrough 1.

Marathon race

SAPPORO, Japan, Aug. 27, (AP): Hiromi Taniguchi of Japan outpaced 1988 Boston marathon champion Ibrahim Hussein of Kenya in the men's race and Loraine Moller of New Zealand won the women's race in the Hokkaido marathon today.

52nd victory

SHIMONADA, Japan, Aug. 27, (AP): Teruo Sugihara shot a four-under-par 68 and won the \$714,000 Daiba-KBC August tournament by two strokes today. It was his 52nd career victory.

No contest

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 27, (AP): Professional boxer Guadalupe "Lupe" Aguayo has pleaded no contest to vehicular manslaughter charges in an accident in which two passengers in his Mercedes-Benz were killed. Aquino, 26, of Santa Paula, California, agreed to a plea bargain Friday, the day he was to be tried in a US court in Santa Monica, California.

Walking event

VARAZDIN, Yugoslavia, Aug. 27, (AP): Valentín Massan of Spain won the 10-kilometre walking event at the 10th European Junior Track and Field Championships yesterday, clocking 40 minutes and 14.17 seconds.

Match postponed

HAMBURG, West Germany, Aug. 27, (UPI): Heavy overnight rain washed out today's final of the 4th European Championships of American Football. Organisers said that the tournament finale between Britain and Finland could not be played due to standing water on the pitch at Hamburg's Wilhelm-Koch stadium. It will now be played tomorrow morning.

Dutch soccer

THE HAGUE, Aug. 27, (Reuter): Results of Dutch First Division soccer matches played today:

Ajax	5	MV Maasricht	0
Nec Nijmegen	1	PSV Eindhoven	4
Roda JC	3	RKC Waalwijk	0
BV Den Bosch	2	FC Utrecht	0
FC Groningen	0	FC Twente	0
Sparta	1	Vitesse	1
Den Haag	3	FC Twente	1
Haarlem	3	Feyenoord	1

1,000 Lakes

JYVASKYLA, Finland, Aug. 27, (Reuter): Sweden's Mikael Ericsson in a Mitsubishi won the 1,000 Lakes motor rally today, according to unofficial results. Finland's Timo Salonen was second in a Mazda one minute 40 seconds behind. Carlos Sainz of Spain was third in a Toyota Celica.

Lemond wins

CHAMBERY, France, Aug. 27, (AP): American Greg Lemond captured the professional title of the World Cycling Championships today with a final burst over the last 300 metres to add to his Tour de France title this year.

Foster skittles out Northants

LONDON, Aug. 27, (Reuter): Neil Foster, lost to the England Test team after joining the rebel tour of South Africa, took a season's best seven for 105 for English County Championship contenders Essex against Northamptonshire yesterday.

Foster bowled unchanged throughout the home side's first innings of 227 to secure Essex a lead of 97.

But rain, conspicuous by its absence this summer, restricted play to just over two hours on the third day of the four-day match, Essex finishing on 46 for three, 143 in front.

Mike Gatting, captain of the rebel England side, will have to resort to some imaginative captaincy against Northamptonshire at Trent Bridge to maintain Middlesex's title challenge.

Gatting's bold approach with the bat yesterday was largely nullified by a torrential downpour which flooded the pitch and

Ban athletes who compete in S. Africa: Olympic leaders

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Aug. 27, (Reuter): An Olympic ban should be imposed on athletes who compete in South Africa, Olympic leaders said yesterday.

Speaking after a three-hour meeting, Australian Kevan Gosper, a member of the executive board of the International

Olympic Committee (IOC), told reporters:

"There was deep concern that apartheid still continues in sport. The message was very clear: that the door should be closed to South Africa until they remove apartheid from sport."

The meeting of the IOC's apartheid

commission was scheduled to resume today to formulate a recommendation to be put to the executive board.

Although the majority of the 30 sports on the summer and Winter Olympic programmes have banned competition against South Africans, tennis still maintains links with the

white-ruled republic.

However, a move to bar South Africa from the International Tennis Federation (ITF) is to be made at the ITF's annual meeting in Buenos Aires next month.

The opening session of the apartheid

commission marked the start of a week-long series of IOC meetings in San Juan.

"The mood of the meeting was that any athletes who insist on playing in South Africa should not be allowed to compete in the Olympic Games," Gosper said.

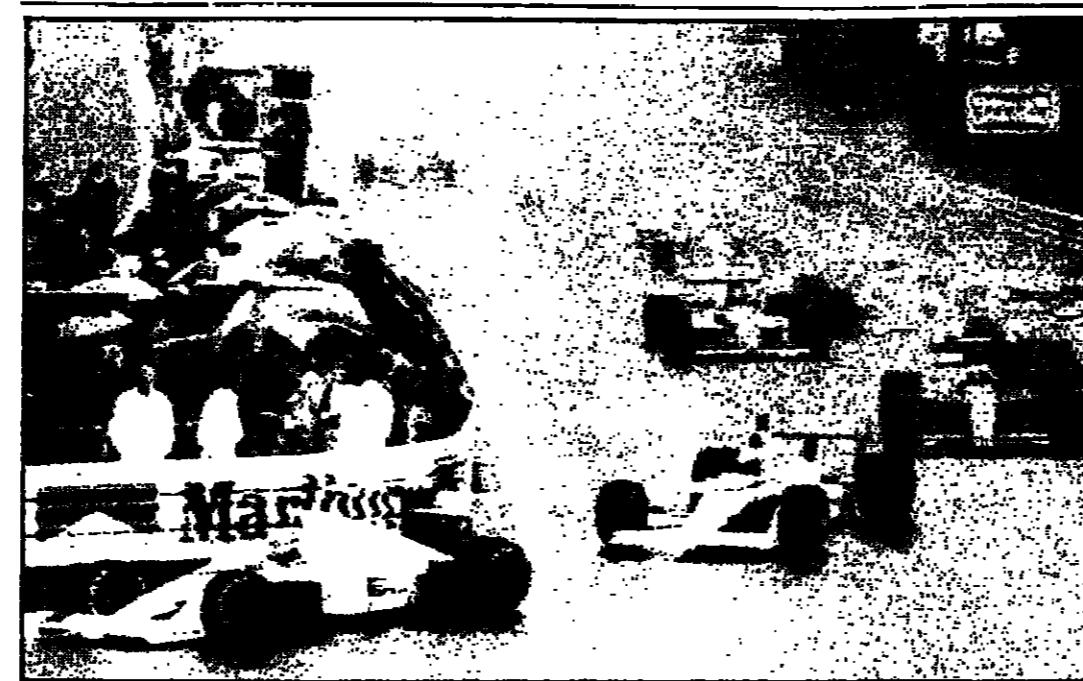
The meeting felt there should be no

normal contact with South Africa until apartheid in sport had been eliminated, he added.

Gosper said the meeting also expressed concern about the current international rugby tour of South Africa and a proposed visit by a rebel England cricket team next year.

Senna wins Belgian Grand Prix

Prost holds off Mansell for 2nd place



Senna leads the pack at the start of the race. (Reuter wirephoto)

Warwick, celebrating his 35th birthday, who finished sixth in an Arrows.

The race was run in extremely

wet and treacherous conditions and the start was delayed by 30 minutes to enable the track, flooded in places, to be swept

clear before the start.

Once the race began, Senna took a predictable lead with Prost and Mansell immediately

falling behind amid the spiralling clouds of spray around the 6,940-metre Spa-Francorchamps circuit in the Ardennes forest.

All the drivers began the race on wet tyres and only a few dared to change to slicks at mid-distance. Prost set the fastest lap on his last circuit as he fended off Mansell's desperate challenge for the runners-up spot.

There were several incidents with many cars spinning and skidding off but no drivers were injured.

Standings

World Drivers' Championship standings (after 11 rounds):

1. Alain Prost (France)	62 points
2. Ayrton Senna (Brazil)	51 points
3. Nigel Mansell (Britain)	38 points
4. Riccardo Patrese (Italy)	23 points
5. Thierry Boutsen (Belgium)	20 points
6. Alessandro Nannini (Italy)	14 points
7. Nelson Piquet (Brazil)	9 points
8. Alain Menu (Switzerland)	6 points
9. Derek Warwick (Britain)	6 points
10. Johnny Herbert (Britain)	5 points
11. Equal: Mauricio Gugelmin (Brazil)	
12. Stefano Modena (Italy)	
13. Andrea de Cesaris (Italy)	
14. Equal: Christian Danner (West Germany)	
15. Equal: Alex Caffi (Italy)	
16. Equal: Stefan Johansson (Sweden)	
17. Equal: Eddie Cheever (USA)	
18. Stefan Johansson (Sweden)	
19. Rene Arnoux (France)	
20. Equal: Pierluigi Martini (Italy)	
21. Equal: Gabriele Tarquini (Italy)	
22. Jonathan Palmer (Britain)	
23. Martin Brundle (Britain)	
24. Luis Perez-Sala (Spain)	

Voraphon routs Tintus for gold

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Aug. 27, (AP): Thailand's Voraphon Thongkamol beat defending champion Tintus Arianto Wibowo of Indonesia for the men's singles tennis gold medal.

Malaysia took the men's singles bronze as V. Selvam beat Suharyadi of Indonesia 6-2, 6-2.

In the all-Indonesian women's singles final, Nani Rahayu Baruki beat Shazana Arianto Wibowo 6-2, 2-1 when Suzuki retired in the second set, complaining of stomach pains.

Orawan Thampensari of Thailand took the bronze medal, defeating compatriot Sakolwan Kachareon 6-4, 6-2.

End in sight for Gower and England

LONDON, Aug. 27, (Reuter): David Gower faces one last challenge at the Oval tomorrow before he can say a relieved farewell to the victorious Australians and, possibly, his job as England captain.

Gower, 43 not out when play was washed out yesterday, will resume his innings today from the 50th Test with England needing another 145 runs to save the follow-on and avoid the spectre of a 5-0 defeat in the six-Test series.

Chasing Australia's first innings total of 468, England wobbled to 124 for 6, with Terry Alderman taking four for 34 despite requiring oxygen during play to ease a breathing problem.

But many feel he would prefer to forget the pressures of captaincy and concentrate on his batting.

If Australia can force victory over the final two days, Gower will become the first England captain to lose three series by 5-0 margins. Only one England captain, Johnny Douglas in 1920-21, has lost a series 5-0 to Australia.

Whether England lose or draw, Gower's tenure as captain looks certain to end only 145 days after he accepted the job for the second time in his career.

In his 106th Test and with over 7,300 runs behind him, Gower's status as a high-class international batsman is undisputed.

The Australians, meanwhile, are determined to maintain their

winning habit right to the end.

Coach Bobby Simpson revealed that Alderman had been suffering from a bronchial complaint since the fifth Test at Trent Bridge but was determined not to miss the Oval match.

"Terry has been struggling with his chest problem for the last fortnight but there was never any question of him pulling out of the final Test," said Simpson. "Winning has become a habit for us and everyone is determined to see one we are not going to break."

Alderman has now taken 38 wickets in the series, just four short of his own Australian record in an Ashes series set in 1981.

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